A/62/49 (Vol. I)

United Nations

Resolutions
and
Decisions

adopted by the General Assembly during its sixty-second session

Volume I

Resolutions

18 September – 22 December 2007

General Assembly
Official Records • Sixty-second Session
Supplement No. 49 (A/62/49)

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United Nations • New York, 2008

NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter "S" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter "S" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters "ES" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters "ES" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

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The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 18 September to 22 December 2007, as well as the information requested by the Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the sixty-second session will be published in volume III.

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RESOLUTION 62/2

Adopted at the 37th plenary meeting, on 29 October 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.5 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay

62/2. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for 2006,[1]

Taking note of the statement by the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency,[2] in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 2007,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency,

Recognizing also the cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency and the Agreement governing the relationship between the United Nations and the Agency as approved by the General Conference of the Agency on 23 October 1957 and by the General Assembly in the annex to its resolution 1145 (XII) of 14 November 1957,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;[1]

2. *Takes note* of resolutions GC(51)/RES/11A on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management and GC(51)/RES/11B on transport safety; GC(51)/RES/12 on progress on measures to protect against nuclear and radiological terrorism; GC(51)/RES/13 on strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities; GC(51)/RES/14 on strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications, comprising GC(51)/RES/14A on non-power nuclear applications and GC(51)/RES/14B on nuclear power applications; GC(51)/RES/15 on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and application of the Model Additional Protocol; GC(51)/RES/16 on the implementation of the Agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; GC(51)/RES/17 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East; GC(51)/RES/18 on personnel, comprising GC(51)/RES/18A on staffing of the Agency's secretariat and GC(51)/RES/18B on women in the secretariat; and decisions GC(51)/DEC/13 on the amendment to article VI of the Statute and GC(51)/DEC/14 on the amendment to article XIV.A of the Statute, adopted by the General Conference of the Agency at its fifty-first regular session, from 17 to 21 September 2007;[3]

3. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the indispensable role of the Agency in encouraging and assisting the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful uses, in technology transfer to developing countries and in nuclear safety, verification and security;

4. *Appeals* to Member States to continue to support the activities of the Agency;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

RESOLUTION 62/3

Adopted at the 38th plenary meeting, on 30 October 2007, by a recorded vote of 184 to 4, with 1 abstention,* on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.1, sponsored by Cuba

* *In favour*: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia,

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[1] International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 2006* (GC(51)/5); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/62/258).

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Plenary Meetings*, 36th meeting (A/62/PV.36), and corrigendum.

[3] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-first Regular Session, 17–21 September 2007* (GC(51)/RES/DEC(2007)).

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Micronesia (Federated States of)

62/3. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the Heads of State or Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another that affect the free flow of international trade,

Concerned at the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as the "Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

Taking note of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of measures of the kind referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997, 53/4 of 14 October 1998, 54/21 of 9 November 1999, 55/20 of 9 November 2000, 56/9 of 27 November 2001, 57/11 of 12 November 2002, 58/7 of 4 November 2003, 59/11 of 28 October 2004, 60/12 of 8 November 2005 and 61/11 of 8 November 2006,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21, 55/20, 56/9, 57/11, 58/7, 59/11, 60/12 and 61/11, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and concerned also at the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 61/11;[4]

2. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution, in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

RESOLUTION 62/4

Adopted at the 40th plenary meeting, on 31 October 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.2 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India,

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[4] A/62/92 and Add.1.

Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

62/4. Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/8 of 3 November 2005, in which it decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the sub-item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal", and recalling also its prior decision to consider the item every two years in advance of each Summer and Winter Olympic Games,

Recalling also its resolution 48/11 of 25 October 1993, which, inter alia, revived the ancient Greek tradition of *ekecheiria* or "Olympic Truce" calling for a truce during the Games that would encourage a peaceful environment and ensure the safe passage and participation of athletes and relevant persons at the Games, thereby mobilizing the youth of the world to the cause of peace,

Taking into account the inclusion in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] of an appeal for the observance of the Olympic Truce now and in the future and support for the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to promote peace and human understanding through sport and the Olympic ideal,

Noting that the Games of the XXIX Olympiad will take place from 8 to 24 August 2008, and that the Paralympic Games will take place from 6 to 17 September 2008, in Beijing,

Recognizing the increasingly important role of sport in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and reaffirming the commitments undertaken in this regard by the Heads of State and Government gathered at the World Summit of the General Assembly, held in New York from 14 to 16 September 2005,

Recognizing also the valuable contribution that the appeal launched by the International Olympic Committee for an Olympic Truce, with which the National Olympic Committees of the Member States are associated, could make towards advancing the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the three main concepts that are at the core of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing, namely, "Green Olympics", "High-tech Olympics" and "People's Olympics", and their vision to achieve a harmonious development of society,

Noting with satisfaction the flying of the United Nations flag at all competition sites of the Olympic Games, and the joint endeavours of the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations system in fields such as poverty alleviation, human and economic development, humanitarian assistance, education, health promotion and HIV/AIDS prevention, gender equality and environmental protection,

1. *Urges* Member States to observe, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, the Olympic Truce, individually and collectively, during the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing, the vision of which is based on the slogan "One world, one dream", and the Paralympic Games which follow it;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the International Olympic Committee to mobilize international sports organizations and the National Olympic Committees of the Member States to undertake concrete actions at the local, national, regional and world levels to promote and strengthen a culture of peace and harmony based on the spirit of the Olympic Truce;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to use sport as an instrument to promote peace, dialogue and reconciliation in areas of conflict during and beyond the Olympic Games period;

4. *Welcomes* the increased implementation of projects for peace, development and human understanding through sport, and encourages Member States and all concerned agencies and programmes of the United Nations system to strengthen their work in this field, in cooperation with the International Olympic Committee;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote the observance of the Olympic Truce among Member States and support for human development initiatives through sport, and to cooperate with the International Olympic Committee and the sporting community in general in the realization of those objectives;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and to consider the sub-item before the XXI Olympic Winter Games, to be held in Vancouver, Canada, in 2010.

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[5] See resolution 55/2.

RESOLUTION 62/5

Adopted at the 41st plenary meeting, on 31 October 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.4, sponsored by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea

62/5. Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/11 of 31 October 2000, in which it welcomed and supported the inter-Korean summit and the joint declaration adopted on 15 June 2000 by the two leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security,

Convinced that inter-Korean dialogue and cooperation are essential for consolidating peace and security on the Korean peninsula and also contribute to peace and stability in the region and beyond, in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Recognizing that the summit meeting held in Pyongyang from 2 to 4 October 2007 between the two leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea and their Declaration on the Advancement of North-South Korean Relations, Peace and Prosperity represent a major milestone in improving inter-Korean relations and in advancing peace and common prosperity on the Korean peninsula and in the wider region as well,

Recalling the statements welcoming the inter-Korean summit made on 1 October 2007 by the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly, and recalling also the statement welcoming the adoption of the Declaration made on 4 October 2007 by the Secretary-General,

1. *Welcomes and supports* the inter-Korean summit held from 2 to 4 October 2007 and the Declaration on the Advancement of North-South Korean Relations, Peace and Prosperity adopted on 4 October 2007 by the two leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea;

2. *Encourages* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea to implement the Declaration fully and in good faith, thereby consolidating peace on the Korean peninsula and laying a solid foundation for peaceful reunification;

3. *Invites* Member States to continue to support and assist, as appropriate, the process of inter-Korean dialogue, reconciliation and reunification so that it may contribute to peace and security not only on the Korean peninsula but also in north-east Asia and the world as a whole.

RESOLUTION 62/6

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 5 November 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.7 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen

62/6. The situation in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/18 of 28 November 2006 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 1659 (2006) of 15 February 2006, 1746 (2007) of 23 March 2007 and 1776 (2007) of 19 September 2007, as well as the statement by the President of the Council on 17 July 2007,[6]

Expressing its strong commitment to the implementation of the Afghanistan Compact and the annexes thereto,[7] which provide the framework for the partnership between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community based on the desire of both for Afghanistan to progressively assume responsibility for its own development and security, and stressing the need for sustained international efforts to support Afghanistan to achieve that end,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Recognizing once again the interconnected nature of the challenges in Afghanistan, reaffirming that sustainable progress on security, governance and development, as well as the cross-cutting theme of counter-narcotics, is mutually reinforcing, and welcoming the continuing efforts of the Government of

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[6] S/PRST/2007/27; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2006–31 July 2007.*

[7] S/2006/90, annex.

Afghanistan and the international community to address these challenges in a coherent manner,

Reiterating the urgent need to tackle the challenges in Afghanistan, in particular the increased violent criminal and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida, illegal armed groups and those involved in the narcotics trade, in particular in the south and east, and the development of Afghan Government institutions, including at the subnational level, the strengthening of the rule of law, the acceleration of justice sector reform, the promotion of national reconciliation, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the measures introduced by the Security Council in its resolution 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999 and other relevant resolutions, and an Afghan-led transitional justice process, the safe and voluntary return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons in an orderly and dignified manner, the promotion and protection of human rights and the advancement of economic and social development,

Condemning, in this context, attacks against both Afghan and foreign nationals committed to supporting the consolidation of peace, stability and development in Afghanistan, in particular United Nations and diplomatic staff, national and international humanitarian and development personnel, Afghan National Security Forces, the International Security Assistance Force, as well as the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, and noting with concern that the lack of security is causing some organizations to cease or curtail their humanitarian and development work in some parts of Afghanistan,

Recognizing the progress achieved, while nonetheless remaining deeply concerned about the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and explosive remnants of war, which constitute a great danger for the population and a major obstacle for the resumption of economic activities and for recovery and reconstruction efforts,

Noting that, despite improvements in building the security sector, increased terrorist attacks caused by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups, in particular in the south and east of Afghanistan, the lack of security caused by criminal activity, terrorism and the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, and the increasingly strong nexus between the drug trade and the terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups remain a serious challenge, threatening the democratic process as well as reconstruction and economic development,

Noting also that the responsibility for providing security and law and order throughout the country resides with the Government of Afghanistan supported by the Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, recognizing the institutional progress achieved in this respect and the continued coordination between the Assistance Force and the coalition, deeply concerned about the recent increase in violence, and stressing the importance of further extending central government authority, including the presence of Afghan security forces, to all provinces of Afghanistan,

Welcoming the completion of the Assistance Force expansion throughout Afghanistan, and noting, in the context of the comprehensive approach, the synergies in the objectives of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and of the Assistance Force,

Commending the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police, the Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition for their efforts to improve security conditions in Afghanistan,

Acknowledging, in this context, that the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police require additional support to enhance their capability and professionalism, including through the provision of increased training and more modern equipment, and welcoming in this regard the deployment of the European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan,

Stressing that regional cooperation constitutes an effective means to promote security and development in Afghanistan,

Welcoming, in this regard, recent initiatives to reinforce regional cooperation, including the establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Afghanistan Contact Group,

Welcoming also the entry of Afghanistan into the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation at the summit meeting of the Association, held in New Delhi on 3 and 4 April 2007, as an opportunity to further promote regional economic cooperation for development,

Reaffirming its continued support for the spirit and the provisions of the Bonn Agreement of 5 December 2001,[8] of the Berlin Declaration, including the annexes thereto, of 1 April 2004[9] and of the Afghanistan Compact of 31 January 2006, and pledging its continued support, after the successful completion of the political transition, to the Government and people of Afghanistan as they rebuild their country, strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy and resume their rightful place in the community of nations,

Noting the importance of the national Government being representative of the ethnic diversity of the country and ensuring also the full and equal participation of women,

Welcoming recent steps to enhance Afghan and international commitment to justice sector reform as outlined at the Conference on the Rule of Law in Afghanistan, held in Rome on 2 and 3 July 2007,

Recalling the guarantee of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans in the Constitution as a significant step towards an improved situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular for women and children, and expressing its concern over the harmful consequences of violent and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups on the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to guarantee the rule of law,

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[8] Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (see S/2001/1154).

[9] Available from www.unama-afg.org.

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 on children and armed conflict,

Expressing its concern at all civilian casualties, and reiterating its call for all feasible steps to be taken to ensure the protection of civilian lives and for international humanitarian and human rights law to be upheld,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security, and applauding the progress achieved in the empowerment of women in Afghan politics as historic milestones in the political process, which will help to consolidate durable peace and national stability in Afghanistan, while noting the need to promote the empowerment of women also at the provincial level,

Noting with concern reports of continued violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law and violent or discriminatory practices including "honour killings" in certain parts of the country, particularly targeting women and girls, and stressing the need for adherence to international standards of tolerance and religious freedom and for judicial investigation and prosecution of relevant cases,

Condemning recent cases of the abduction and even killing of journalists and other civilians by terrorist and extremist groups,

Encouraging the completion of the interim Afghanistan National Development Strategy[10] by early 2008, as well as further efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming the outcome of the Regional Economic Cooperation Conferences, held in Kabul on 4 and 5 December 2005 and in New Delhi on 18 and 19 November 2006, as well as of the Enabling Environment Conference, held in Kabul on 4 and 5 June 2007, and of the seventeenth ministerial meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization held in Herat, Afghanistan, from 17 to 20 October 2007, and welcoming also Pakistan's offer to host the next Regional Economic Cooperation Conference in early 2008,

Welcoming also the continuing and growing ownership of the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, and emphasizing the crucial need to achieve ownership in all fields of governance and to improve institutional capabilities, including at the provincial level, in order to use aid more effectively,

Expressing its appreciation for the humanitarian assistance work of the international community in the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan, recognizing the necessity of further addressing the slow pace of change in the living conditions of the Afghan people, and noting the need to strengthen and support the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver basic social services, in particular education and public health services, and to promote development,

Welcoming the continuous return of refugees and internally displaced persons, in a voluntary and sustainable manner, while noting with concern that conditions in parts of Afghanistan are not yet conducive to safe and sustainable returns to some places of origin,

Recognizing that underdevelopment and lack of capacity increase the vulnerability of Afghanistan to natural disasters and to harsh climate conditions,

Expressing its appreciation for the work of the provincial reconstruction teams and of the executive steering committee,

Deeply concerned about the increased cultivation and production of narcotic drugs in Afghanistan, as well as the drug trafficking and the increasingly strong nexus between the drug trade and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups, which are undermining stability and security as well as the political and economic reconstruction of Afghanistan and have dangerous repercussions in the region and far beyond, and commending the reaffirmed commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to rid the country of this pernicious production and trade, including by decisive law enforcement measures,

Recalling the updated National Drug Control Strategy,[11] and recognizing that the social and economic development of Afghanistan, specifically the development of alternative gainful and sustainable livelihoods in the formal productive sector, is an important element of the successful implementation of the Strategy and depends to a large extent on enhanced international cooperation with the Government of Afghanistan,

Expressing its appreciation and strong support for the central and impartial role that the Secretary-General and his Special Representative continue to play in the consolidation of peace and stability in Afghanistan, stressing the central role of the Assistance Mission in promoting a more coherent international engagement to ensure a seamless transition, under Afghan leadership, from humanitarian relief to recovery and reconstruction, and also stressing the need for further sustained cooperation, coordination and mutual support between the international community and the Government of Afghanistan,

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[10] S/2006/105, annex.

[11] S/2006/106, annex.

Welcoming the work of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board established by the Afghanistan Compact as an instrument to further improve coordination between the Government of Afghanistan and its international partners and to monitor the implementation of all benchmarks,

Recognizing the need for a continued strong international commitment to humanitarian assistance and for programmes, under the ownership of the Government of Afghanistan, of recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and expressing, at the same time, its appreciation to the United Nations system and to all States and international and non-governmental organizations whose international and local staff continue to respond positively to the humanitarian, transition and development needs of Afghanistan despite increasing security concerns and difficulties of access in certain areas,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[12] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Strongly condemns* the upsurge of violence, including the rising trend of suicide attacks, in Afghanistan, in particular in the southern and eastern parts, owing to the increased violent and terrorist activity by the Taliban, Al-Qaida, other extremist groups and those involved in the narcotics trade, which has resulted in increased casualties among Afghan civilians, Afghan National Security Forces, the International Security Assistance Force and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition, as well as among the personnel of Afghan and international aid agencies and all other humanitarian workers;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of sufficient security, welcomes the presence of the Assistance Force throughout Afghanistan, and calls upon Member States to continue contributing personnel, equipment and other resources to the Assistance Force and to further develop the provincial reconstruction teams in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Assistance Mission as mandated by the Security Council in its resolution 1746 (2007) and stresses the continued importance of the central and impartial role played by the Assistance Mission in promoting and coordinating a more coherent international engagement, welcomes the extension of its presence in additional provinces, which thus ensures that the United Nations fulfils its essential coordinating role, and encourages the Assistance Mission to consolidate its presence and to continue its expansion throughout the country, in particular in the south, security conditions permitting;

5. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, including through the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition and the Assistance Force, in accordance with their respective designated responsibilities, to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan posed by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups as well as by criminal violence, in particular violence involving the drug trade;

6. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan and local authorities to take all possible steps to ensure the safe and unhindered access of United Nations, development and humanitarian personnel to all affected populations;

7. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence and intimidation, regrets the loss of life and physical harm, and urges the Government of Afghanistan and local authorities to make every effort, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/123 of 15 December 2005, to bring to justice the perpetrators of attacks, to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations, development and humanitarian personnel and to protect the property of the United Nations and of development or humanitarian organizations;

8. *Stresses* the importance of advancing the full implementation of the programme of disbandment of illegal armed groups throughout the country under Afghan ownership, while ensuring coordination and coherence with other relevant efforts, including security sector reform, community development, counter-narcotics, district-level development and Afghan-led initiatives to ensure that entities and individuals do not illegally participate in the political process, in accordance with adopted laws and regulations in Afghanistan, and calls for adequate support in order for the Ministry of Interior to increasingly assume its leading role in implementing the programme of disbandment of illegal armed groups;

9. *Welcomes* the outcome of the Conference on Disbandment of Illegal Armed Groups for the Stabilization of Afghanistan: Coordination with Police Reform, held in Tokyo on 21 June 2007;[13]

10. *Also welcomes*, in this context, the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to stand firm on the disbandment of illegal armed groups and to work actively at national, provincial and local levels to advance this commitment;

11. *Further welcomes* the development of the new professional Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police, calls for accelerated efforts to modernize and strengthen both institutions and related Government departments, and welcomes in this regard the deployment of the European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan in 2007;

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[12] A/62/345-S/2007/555.

[13] See A/61/993-S/2007/417.

12. *Welcomes* the completion of the disarmament and demobilization of child soldiers in the Afghan Military Forces, stresses the importance of the reintegration of child soldiers and of care for other children affected by war, commends the Government of Afghanistan for its efforts in this regard, and encourages it to continue efforts in cooperation with the United Nations, including with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and with other international partners;

13. *Expresses its concern* about the ongoing recruitment and use of child soldiers by illegal armed and terrorist groups in Afghanistan, reiterates the importance of implementing Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) on children and armed conflict, and of ending the use of children contrary to international law, welcomes efforts by the Government of Afghanistan in this regard, and also welcomes the accession by Afghanistan to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[14] and the two Optional Protocols thereto,[15] as well as commitments made by the Government at the "Free Children from War" conference, held in Paris on 5 and 6 February 2007;

14. *Welcomes* the progress achieved through the Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan, and supports the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts to meet its responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[16] in line with the Millennium Development Goals, to cooperate fully with the Mine Action Programme coordinated by the United Nations and to eliminate all known or new stocks of anti-personnel landmines;

15. *Recognizes* the challenges following secure and fair elections and the establishment of democratic institutions as identified in the Afghanistan Compact,[7] and calls upon the international community to continue to provide sustained support;

16. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Government of Afghanistan on justice sector reform, also welcomes the progress made in the creation of a fair and effective justice system as an important step towards the goal of strengthening the Government, providing security and ensuring the rule of law throughout the country, and urges the international community to continue to support the efforts of the Government in these areas in a coordinated manner, welcoming in this regard the outcome of the Conference on the Rule of Law in Afghanistan, held in Rome on 2 and 3 July 2007;

17. *Encourages* the Government of Afghanistan to finalize the national justice sector strategy and the national justice programme, and calls upon the international community to ensure the requisite support for justice sector reform, including honouring commitments made at the Rome Conference;

18. *Stresses once again* the need for further progress on a comprehensive judicial reform in Afghanistan, and urges the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to devote resources also to the reconstruction and reform of the prison sector in order to improve respect for the rule of law and human rights therein, while reducing physical and mental health risks to inmates;

19. *Calls for* the full respect of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with obligations under the Afghan Constitution and international law;

20. *Continues to emphasize* the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law, including violations committed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, as well as against women and girls, of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international law;

21. *Stresses* the need to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience or belief, while noting with concern recent attempts to limit freedom of expression and to intimidate journalists;

22. *Notes with concern* the negative impact of the security situation, in particular terrorist and violent activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and extremist groups, on the enjoyment of human rights, and calls for all parties to fully respect human rights and international humanitarian law throughout Afghanistan and, with the assistance of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and of the Assistance Mission, to fully implement the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution, including those regarding the full enjoyment by women of their human rights, and commends the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan in this respect;

23. *Reiterates* the important role of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, stresses the need to expand its range of operation in all parts of Afghanistan in accordance with the Afghan Constitution, calls for the full implementation by the Government of Afghanistan of the Action Plan on Peace, Justice and Reconciliation, without prejudice to the implementation of measures introduced by the Security Council in its resolution 1267 (1999) and other relevant resolutions, and stresses the importance of judicial accountability of human rights offenders in accordance with national and international law;

24. *Recalls* Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security, commends the efforts of the

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[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[15] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[16] Ibid., vol. 2056, No. 35597.

Government of Afghanistan to mainstream gender issues and to protect and promote the equal rights of women and men as guaranteed, inter alia, by virtue of its ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[17] and by the Afghan Constitution, and reiterates the continued importance of the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of Afghan life;

25. *Welcomes* the finalization of the National Action Plan for Women in Afghanistan and the significant efforts by the Government of Afghanistan to counter discrimination, urges the Government to actively involve all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction programmes, and encourages the collection and use of statistical data on a sex-disaggregated basis to provide information on gender-based violence and accurately track the progress of the full integration of women into the political, economic and social life of Afghanistan;

26. *Recognizes* the significant progress achieved on gender equality in Afghanistan in recent years, and strongly condemns incidents of discrimination and violence against women and girls, including women activists, in Afghanistan, wherever they occur;

27. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Government of Afghanistan of the National Plan of Action on Combating Child Trafficking, also welcomes initiatives to pass legislation on human trafficking, guided by the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[18] and stresses the importance of considering becoming a party to the Protocol;

28. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to continue to effectively reform the public administration sector in order to implement the rule of law and to ensure good governance and accountability at both national and local levels, and stresses the importance of meeting the respective benchmarks of the Afghanistan Compact, with the support of the international community;

29. *Welcomes* the formal establishment of the Senior Appointments Panel and the finalization of the revised Public Administration Reform framework, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan to ensure appointment of officials as required by the Afghanistan Compact;

30. *Encourages* the international community, including all donor nations, to assist the Government of Afghanistan in making capacity-building and human resources development a cross-cutting priority;

31. *Encourages* the Government of Afghanistan to vigorously pursue its efforts to establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at national, provincial and local levels of Government leading the fight against corruption in accordance with the Afghanistan Compact, and notes with concern the effects of corruption with regard to security, good governance, combating the narcotics industry and economic development;

32. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to address, with the assistance of the international community, the question of claims for land property through a comprehensive land titling programme, including formal registration of all property and improved security of property rights, and welcomes the steps already taken by the Government in this regard;

33. *Notes* the progress achieved in the elaboration of the Afghanistan National Development Strategy,[10] underlines the need to finalize the Strategy by early 2008, and urges the international community actively to support this process;

34. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and in accordance with its national development strategy, all possible and necessary humanitarian, recovery, reconstruction, financial, technical and material assistance for Afghanistan;

35. *Urges* the international community, in accordance with the Afghanistan Compact, to increase the proportion of donor assistance channelled directly to the core budget, as agreed bilaterally between the Government of Afghanistan and each donor, as well as through other more predictable core budget funding modalities in which the Government participates, such as the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund, the Law and Order Trust Fund and the Counter-Narcotics Trust Fund;

36. *Invites* all States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations providing assistance to Afghanistan to focus on institution-building in a coordinated manner and to ensure that such work complements and contributes to the development of an economy characterized by sound macroeconomic policies, the development of a financial sector that provides services, inter alia, to microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises and households, transparent business regulations and accountability;

37. *Encourages* the international community to support the local economy as a measure for long-term stability and countering narcotics and, in this respect, to explore possibilities for enhancing local procurement;

38. *Calls for* strengthening the process of regional economic cooperation, including measures to facilitate regional trade, to increase foreign investments and to develop infrastructure, noting Afghanistan's historic role as a land bridge in Asia;

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[17] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[18] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

39. *Reiterates* the necessity of providing Afghan children with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, welcomes progress achieved in the sector of public education, and recalls the National Education Strategic Plan as a promising basis for further achievements;

40. *Recognizes* the special needs of girls, strongly condemns terrorist attacks on education facilities, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan, with the assistance of the international community, to expand these facilities, to train professional staff and to promote full and equal access to them by all members of Afghan society, including in remote areas;

41. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, acknowledging the huge burden they have so far shouldered in this regard, and reminds them of their obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees, the principle of voluntary return and the right to seek asylum and to allow international access for their protection and care;

42. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan, acting with the support of the international community, to continue and strengthen its efforts to create the conditions for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return and reintegration of the remaining Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons;

43. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the tripartite agreements between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Government of Afghanistan and the Governments of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, respectively;

44. *Calls for* the provision of continued international assistance to the large numbers of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons to facilitate their voluntary, safe, dignified and orderly return and sustainable reintegration into society so as to contribute to the stability of the entire country;

45. *Expresses concern* about the second successive increase in the cultivation of opium, notes that opium cultivation, the related drug production and trafficking and the increasingly strong nexus between the drug trade and terrorist activities by the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups pose a serious threat to security, the rule of law and development in Afghanistan, urges the Government of Afghanistan, supported by the international community, to work to mainstream counter-narcotics throughout all the national programmes and ensure that counter-narcotics is a fundamental part of the comprehensive approach, commends the efforts of the Government in this regard, and urges it to increase its efforts against opium cultivation and drug trafficking, with the support of the international community;

46. *Welcomes* the efforts to date of the Government of Afghanistan to carry out the National Drug Control Strategy,[11] and urges the Government and the international community to take decisive action, in particular to stop the processing of and trade in drugs, by pursuing the concrete steps set out in the Strategy and in the Afghanistan Compact and through initiatives such as the Good Performers Initiative established to provide incentives for governors to reduce cultivation in their provinces;

47. *Calls upon* the international community to assist the Government of Afghanistan in carrying out its National Drug Control Strategy, aimed at eliminating the cultivation, production, trafficking in and consumption of illicit drugs, including through increased support for Afghan law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, agricultural and rural development, demand reduction, the elimination of illicit crops, increasing public awareness, building the capacity of drug control institutions and creating alternative livelihoods for farmers;

48. *Encourages* the international community to increasingly channel counter-narcotics funding through the Government of Afghanistan's Counter-Narcotics Trust Fund;

49. *Urges* the Government of Afghanistan to promote the development of sustainable livelihoods in the formal production sector as well as other sectors, and to improve access to reasonable and sustainable credit and financing in rural areas, thus improving substantially the lives, health and security of the people, particularly in rural areas;

50. *Supports* the fight against the illicit trafficking in drugs and precursors within Afghanistan and in neighbouring States and countries along trafficking routes, including increased cooperation among them to strengthen anti-narcotic controls to curb the drug flow;

51. *Recalls* the outcome of the Second Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking Routes from Afghanistan, organized by the Government of the Russian Federation in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, held in Moscow from 26 to 28 June 2006,[19] within the framework of the Paris Pact initiative, and therefore calls upon States to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter the increasing threat to the international community posed by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs;

52. *Welcomes* recent initiatives to promote border management cooperation in drug control between Afghanistan and its neighbours;

53. *Stresses* the central and impartial role of the United Nations in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan by leading the efforts of the international community, and endorses the key principles for cooperation between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community as referred to in the Afghanistan Compact;

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[19] See A/61/208-S/2006/598, annex.

54. *Acknowledges* the central role played by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board in facilitating and monitoring the implementation of the Afghanistan Compact, stresses the role of the Board to support Afghanistan by, inter alia, coordinating international assistance and reconstruction programmes, and welcomes further efforts to provide appropriate high-level political guidance and promote a more coherent international engagement;

55. *Commends* the continuing efforts of the signatories of the Kabul Declaration on Good-neighbourly Relations of 22 December 2002[20] to implement their commitments under the Declaration, and furthermore calls upon all other States to respect and support the implementation of those provisions and to promote regional stability;

56. *Welcomes* efforts by the Governments of Afghanistan and its neighbouring partners to foster trust and cooperation with each other, and looks forward, where appropriate, to increasing cooperation between Afghanistan and all its neighbouring and regional partners against the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other extremist groups and in promoting peace and prosperity in Afghanistan, in the region and beyond;

57. *Also welcomes* the holding of the Afghan-Pakistani Joint Peace Jirga in Kabul, from 9 to 12 August 2007, and the collective determination expressed at the Jirga to bring sustainable peace to the region, including by addressing the terrorist threat;

58. *Further welcomes* the Ankara Declaration issued following the trilateral summit of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey, held in Ankara on 29 and 30 April 2007,[21] and expresses its support to the continuation of this process;

59. *Welcomes* the joint statement adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of Eight countries with the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan and Pakistan at their meeting in Potsdam, Germany, on 30 May 2007 on the promotion of cooperation and assistance through mutual consultation and agreement, including follow-up projects in areas such as refugees repatriation and economic development;

60. *Appreciates* the efforts of the members of the Tripartite Commission, namely Afghanistan, Pakistan and the United States of America and the Assistance Force, to continue to address cross-border activities and to broaden its cooperation, welcomes the participation of the Assistance Force, and calls upon the international community to support those efforts;

61. *Emphasizes* the need to maintain, strengthen and review civil-military relations among international actors, as appropriate, at all levels in order to ensure complementarity of action based on the different mandates and comparative advantages of the humanitarian, development, law enforcement and military actors present in Afghanistan, bearing in mind the central and impartial coordinating role of the United Nations;

62. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every six months during its sixty-second session on developments in Afghanistan, as well as on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

63. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

RESOLUTION 62/7

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 8 November 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.9 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Japan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Oman, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yemen

62/7. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/30 of 7 December 1994, 50/133 of 20 December 1995, 51/31 of 6 December 1996, 52/18 of 21 November 1997, 53/31 of 23 November 1998, 54/36 of 29 November 1999, 55/43 of 27 November 2000, 56/96 of 14 December 2001, 56/269 of 27 March 2002, 58/13 of 17 November 2003, 58/281 of 9 February 2004, 60/253 of 2 May 2006 and 61/226 of 22 December 2006,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by Heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[22] in particular paragraphs 6 and 24 thereof, and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[23]

Recalling further the declarations and plans of action of the six international conferences of new or restored democracies adopted in Manila in 1988, Managua in 1994, Bucharest in 1997, Cotonou in 2000, Ulaanbaatar in 2003 and Doha in 2006,

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[20] S/2002/1416, annex.

[21] A/61/898-S/2007/266, annex.

[22] See resolution 55/2.

[23] See resolution 60/1.

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles and purposes contained therein, and recognizing that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Stressing that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Reaffirming also that, while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region, and reaffirming further the necessity of due respect for sovereignty, the right to self-determination and territorial integrity,

Bearing in mind that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate democracy are undertaken in accordance with the Charter and only at the specific request of the Member States concerned,

Mindful of the central role of parliaments and the active involvement of civil society organizations and media and their interaction with Governments at all levels in promoting democracy, freedom, equality, participation, development, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, and welcoming in this regard the expanded tripartite participation in the Sixth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, hosted by the Government of Qatar in Doha from 29 October to 1 November 2006, which focused on capacity-building, democracy and social progress,

Noting the role of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in support of the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies movement,

Recognizing the work carried out by the Chair and the Advisory Board of the Sixth International Conference, particularly the efforts of the Chair to achieve systematic implementation of Conference recommendations in accordance with the Doha Declaration adopted at the Sixth International Conference,[24]

Noting that 2008 marks the twentieth anniversary of the First International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, held in Manila from 3 to 6 June 1988,

Convinced of the need to continue to encourage and promote democratization, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the importance of action-oriented follow-up to the Sixth International Conference,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[25] and the suggestions contained therein;

2. *Also takes note* of the outcomes of the first and second meetings of the Advisory Board of the Sixth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, particularly the formulation of a Conference programme of work for 2007–2009, and welcomes the proposal to designate an international day of democracy;

3. *Encourages* Governments to strengthen national programmes devoted to the promotion and consolidation of democracy, including through increased bilateral, regional and international cooperation, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices;

4. *Encourages* regional and other intergovernmental organizations to share their experiences in the field of democracy promotion with each other and with the United Nations system where appropriate, and to actively participate in future meetings and activities of the International Conference of New or Restored Democracies;

5. *Recognizes* that the commemoration in 2008 of the twentieth anniversary of the First International Conference of New or Restored Democracies offers a special opportunity to focus attention on the promotion and consolidation of democracy at all levels and reinforce international cooperation in this regard;

6. *Decides*, with effect from its sixty-second session, to observe on 15 September of each year the International Day of Democracy, which should be brought to the attention of all people for its celebration and observance;

7. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, regional and intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals to commemorate the International Day of Democracy in an appropriate manner that contributes to raising public awareness;

8. *Invites* Member States to continue to ensure that parliamentarians and civil society organizations are given appropriate opportunity to be involved in, and to contribute to, the celebration of the International Day of Democracy;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to recommend ways and means by which the United Nations system and the United Nations Secretariat could, within existing resources, assist Member States, upon request, in organizing activities to commemorate the International Day of Democracy;

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[24] A/61/581, annex.

[25] A/62/296.

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take necessary measures, within existing resources, for the observance by the United Nations of the International Day of Democracy;

11. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the Organization to respond effectively to the requests of Member States by providing adequate support for their efforts to achieve the goals of good governance and democratization, including through the activities of the Democracy Fund at the United Nations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies".

RESOLUTION 62/8

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.11/Rev.1, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

62/8. Overview of United Nations activities relating to climate change

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[26]

Recalling also the views expressed by Member States during the general debate of the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the suggested thematic issue "Responding to climate change", the Secretary-General's high-level event on climate change on 24 September 2007 and the informal thematic debate at its sixty-first session on "Climate change as a global challenge",

Requests the Secretary-General, in this context, to submit, by 25 January 2008, a comprehensive report providing an overview of the activities of the United Nations system in relation to climate change.

RESOLUTION 62/9

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 20 November 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.12 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Honduras, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine

62/9. Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of 18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992, 48/206 of 21 December 1993, 50/134 of 20 December 1995, 52/172 of 16 December 1997, 54/97 of 8 December 1999, 56/109 of 14 December 2001, 58/119 of 17 December 2003 and 60/14 of 14 November 2005, as well as its resolution 55/171 of 14 December 2000 on closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the implementation of those resolutions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990, 1991/51 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/38 of 30 July 1992 and Council decision 1993/232 of 22 July 1993,

Conscious of the long-term nature of the consequences of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and complexity and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences and problems of common concern, requiring for their solution wide and active international cooperation and coordination of efforts in this field at the international and national levels,

Expressing profound concern at the ongoing effects of the consequences of the accident on the lives and health of people, in particular children, in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as in other affected countries,

Noting the consensus reached among members of the Chernobyl Forum[27] on the environmental, health and socio-economic effects of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular, the Forum's message of reassurance and practical advice to communities living in territories affected by the Chernobyl disaster,

Acknowledging the importance of the national efforts being undertaken by the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

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[26] See resolution 60/1.

[27] The members of the Chernobyl Forum are drawn from the following organizations and bodies within the United Nations system: International Atomic Energy Agency, United Nations Development Programme, World Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and World Bank, as well as representatives of the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

Recognizing the contribution of civil society organizations, including the national Red Cross Societies of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, in response to the Chernobyl disaster and in support of the efforts of the affected countries,

Welcoming with appreciation the developmental approach to tackling the problems caused by the Chernobyl disaster aimed at normalizing the situation of the individuals and communities concerned in the medium and long term,[28]

Stressing the exceptional Chernobyl-related needs, in particular in the areas of health, environment and research, in the context of the transition from the emergency to the recovery phase of mitigation of the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Noting the completion in 2006 of the transfer of responsibility for the coordination of Chernobyl efforts from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to the United Nations Development Programme,

Stressing the need for further coordination by the United Nations Development Programme and improved resource mobilization by the United Nations system to support activities aimed at the recovery of Chernobyl-affected territories, inter alia, community-based development projects, the promotion of investment and the creation of new jobs and small businesses, advocacy work and the provision of relevant policy advice on request and the widest possible dissemination of the findings of the Chernobyl Forum through the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of resolution 60/14,[29] as well as relevant parts of the reports of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system,

1. *Welcomes* the contribution made by States and by organizations of the United Nations system to the development of cooperation to mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, the activities of regional and other organizations and those of non-governmental organizations, as well as bilateral activities;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations that are members of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl to continue implementing a developmental approach to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, in particular through the development of specific projects, and stresses the need for the Inter-Agency Task Force to continue its activities to that end, including through coordinating efforts in the field of resource mobilization;

3. *Acknowledges* the difficulties faced by the most affected countries in minimizing the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and invites States, in particular donor States and all relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations, to continue to provide support to the ongoing efforts of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, including through the allocation of adequate funds to support medical, social, economic and environmental programmes related to the disaster;

4. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations should continue to play an important catalytic and coordinating role in the strengthening of international cooperation to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, in his capacity as Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and as Chairperson of the United Nations Development Group, to continue to take appropriate practical measures to strengthen coordination of the international efforts in that area;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Ukraine and the international donor community to complete construction of the Shelter facility and related nuclear safety projects at Chernobyl, in accordance with international standards, so as to transform the site into a stable and environmentally safe state, recognizes and welcomes the recent contract signatures under the Shelter Implementation Plan as important milestones, and urges all parties to ensure that a strong, long-standing, high-level commitment remains in place to ensure the successful completion of this vital work;

7. *Also welcomes* the recent appointment as a United Nations Development Programme Goodwill Ambassador of star tennis player, Maria Sharapova, who will serve as an advocate for post-Chernobyl recovery efforts, and praises her personal commitment in supporting a number of recovery projects that aid local communities in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the realization of the Cooperation for Rehabilitation Programme in Belarus and the Chernobyl Recovery and Development Programme in Ukraine, aimed at promoting better living conditions in and the sustainable development of the affected territories;

9. *Also notes with satisfaction* assistance rendered by the International Atomic Energy Agency to Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine on remediation of agricultural and urban environments, cost-effective agricultural countermeasures

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[28] See the United Nations report entitled "The Human Consequences of the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident: A Strategy for Recovery".

[29] A/62/467.

and the monitoring of human exposure in areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster;

10. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the progress made by the Governments of the affected countries in implementing national strategies to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and calls upon United Nations agencies and multilateral and bilateral donors to continue to align their assistance with the priorities of the national strategies of the affected States, and stresses the importance of working together on their implementation in a common effort in the spirit of cooperation;

11. *Notes* the necessity of further measures to ensure the integration of the assessment by the Chernobyl Forum of the environmental, health and socio-economic consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear accident into the International Chernobyl Research and Information Network process through dissemination of the findings of the Forum, including by providing accurate information on the impact of radiation in accessible, non-technical language in the form of practical messages on healthy and productive lifestyles, to the populations affected by the accident in order to empower them to maximize social and economic recovery and sustainable development in all its aspects;

12. *Proclaims* the third decade after the Chernobyl disaster, 2006–2016, the Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions, to be focused on achieving the goal of a return to normal life for the affected communities as far as is possible within that time frame;

13. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the proposal by the United Nations Development Programme to coordinate the drafting of a United Nations action plan for Chernobyl recovery up to 2016 in order to implement the Decade, in support of national strategies of the affected countries, with the aim of maximizing limited resources, avoiding duplication of effort and building on recognized agency mandates and competencies, and requests the United Nations Development Programme to present a draft plan for review by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl by 26 April 2008, the twenty-second anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to coordinate, within existing resources, the efforts of the United Nations system and with other relevant actors on the implementation of the Decade;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and, through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, to continue to maintain close cooperation with the agencies of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and other relevant organizations, while implementing specific Chernobyl-related programmes and projects;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl to continue his work in organizing, in collaboration with the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, a further study of the health, environmental and socio-economic consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, consistent with the recommendations of the Chernobyl Forum, and to improve the provision of information to local populations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, under a separate sub-item, a report containing a comprehensive assessment of the implementation of all aspects of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/10

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.15 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

62/10. World Day of Social Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[30] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session[31] constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the commitment to promote national and global economic systems based on the principles of justice, equity, democracy, participation, transparency, accountability and inclusion,

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[30] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[31] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Reaffirming the commitment made in the 2005 World Summit Outcome to full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, as a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of the efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,[32]

1. *Recognizes* that social development and social justice are indispensable for the achievement and maintenance of peace and security within and among nations and that, in turn, social development and social justice cannot be attained in the absence of peace and security or in the absence of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Also recognizes* that broad-based and sustained economic growth in the context of sustainable development is necessary to sustain social development and social justice;

3. *Further recognizes* that globalization and interdependence are opening new opportunities through trade, investment and capital flows and advances in technology, including information technology, for the growth of the world economy and the development and improvement of living standards around the world, while at the same time there remain serious challenges, including serious financial crises, insecurity, poverty, exclusion and inequality within and among societies and considerable obstacles to further integration and full participation in the global economy for developing countries as well as some countries with economies in transition;

4. *Recognizes* the need to consolidate further the efforts of the international community in poverty eradication and in promoting full employment and decent work, gender equality and access to social well-being and justice for all;

5. *Decides* to declare that, starting from the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, 20 February will be celebrated annually as the World Day of Social Justice;

6. *Invites* all Member States to devote this special day to the promotion, at the national level, of concrete activities in accordance with the objectives and goals of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly.

RESOLUTION 62/11

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.16 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zimbabwe

62/11. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict: breaking the link between the illicit transaction of rough diamonds and armed conflict as a contribution to prevention and settlement of conflicts

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the trade in conflict diamonds continues to be a matter of serious international concern, which can be directly linked to the fuelling of armed conflict, the activities of rebel movements aimed at undermining or overthrowing legitimate Governments and the illicit traffic in and proliferation of armaments, especially small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing also the devastating impact of conflicts fuelled by the trade in conflict diamonds on the peace, safety and security of people in affected countries, and the systematic and gross human rights violations that have been perpetrated in such conflicts,

Noting the negative impact of such conflicts on regional stability and the obligations placed upon States by the Charter of the United Nations regarding the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing, therefore, that continued action to curb the trade in conflict diamonds is imperative,

Recalling that the elimination of illicit diamonds from legitimate trade is the primary objective of the Kimberley Process,

Bearing in mind the positive benefits of the legitimate diamond trade to producing countries, and underlining the need for continued international action to prevent the problem of conflict diamonds from negatively affecting the trade in legitimate diamonds, which makes a critical contribution to the economies of many of the producing, exporting and importing States, especially developing States,

Noting that the vast majority of rough diamonds produced in the world are from legitimate sources,

Recalling the Charter and all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council related to conflict diamonds, and determined to contribute to and support the implementation of the measures provided for in those resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1459 (2003) of 28 January 2003, in which the Council strongly supported the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[33] as a valuable contribution against trafficking in conflict diamonds,

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[32] See resolution 60/1, para. 47.

[33] See A/57/489.

Welcoming the important contribution of the Kimberley Process, which was initiated by African diamond-producing countries,

Acknowledging that lessons learned from the Kimberley Process are useful for the work of the Peacebuilding Commission in its consideration of the countries included in its agenda, as appropriate,

Noting with satisfaction that the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme continues to have a positive impact in reducing the opportunity for conflict diamonds to play a role in fuelling armed conflict and would help to protect legitimate trade and ensure the effective implementation of the relevant resolutions on trade in conflict diamonds,

Recalling its resolutions 55/56 of 1 December 2000, 56/263 of 13 March 2002, 57/302 of 15 April 2003, 58/290 of 14 April 2004, 59/144 of 15 December 2004, 60/182 of 20 December 2005 and 61/28 of 4 December 2006, in which it called for the development and implementation as well as a periodic review of proposals for a simple, effective and pragmatic international certification scheme for rough diamonds,

Welcoming, in this regard, the implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme in such a way as not to impede the legitimate trade in diamonds or impose an undue burden on Governments or industry, particularly smaller producers, nor hinder the development of the diamond industry,

Welcoming also the decision of forty-eight Kimberley Process Participants, representing seventy-four countries, including the twenty-seven members of the European Union represented by the European Commission, to address the problem of conflict diamonds by participating in the Process and implementing the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme,

Welcoming further the desire of the Kimberley Process to systematize the current rules and procedures and the subsequent development of new rules and procedural norms regulating the activity of its working bodies, Participants and observers,

Welcoming the successful consensual outcomes of the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process hosted by the European Commission in Brussels from 5 to 8 November 2007,

Welcoming also the important contributions made and that continue to be made by civil society and the diamond industry, in particular the World Diamond Council which represents all aspects of the diamond industry, to assist international efforts to stop the trade in conflict diamonds,

Welcoming further the voluntary self-regulation initiatives for the diamond industry announced by the World Diamond Council, and recognizing that a system of such voluntary self-regulation contributes, as described in the Interlaken Declaration of 5 November 2002 on the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme for Rough Diamonds,[34] to ensuring the effectiveness of national systems of internal control for rough diamonds,

Noting in this regard the Declaration on internal controls in diamond trading and manufacturing centres, endorsed by the Brussels plenary meeting,

Noting with appreciation that the Kimberley Process has pursued its deliberations on an inclusive basis, involving concerned stakeholders, including producing, exporting and importing States, the diamond industry and civil society, as well as applicant States and international organizations,

Recognizing that State sovereignty should be fully respected and that the principles of equality, mutual benefits and consensus should be adhered to,

Recognizing also that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, which came into effect on 1 January 2003, will be credible only if all Participants have requisite national legislation coupled with effective and credible internal systems of control designed to eliminate the presence of conflict diamonds in the chain of producing, exporting and importing rough diamonds within their own territories, while taking into account that differences in production methods and trading practices, as well as differences in institutional controls thereof, may require different approaches to meeting minimum standards,

1. *Reaffirms its strong and continuing support* for the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme[33] and the Kimberley Process as a whole;

2. *Recognizes* that the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme can help to ensure the effective implementation of relevant resolutions of the Security Council containing sanctions on the trade in conflict diamonds and act as a mechanism for the prevention of future conflicts, and calls for the full implementation of existing Council measures targeting the illicit trade in rough diamonds, particularly conflict diamonds which play a role in fuelling conflict;

3. *Also recognizes* the important contributions that the international efforts to address the problem of conflict diamonds, including the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, have made to the settlement of conflicts and the consolidation of peace in Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone;

4. *Notes* the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 15 May 2003 granting a waiver with respect to the measures taken to implement the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, effective from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2006,[35] and the decision of the General Council

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[34] Ibid., annex 2.

[35] World Trade Organization, document WT/L/518. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

of 17 November 2006 granting an extension of the waiver until 31 December 2012;[36]

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Chair of the Kimberley Process submitted pursuant to resolution 61/28,[37] and congratulates the participating Governments, the regional economic integration organization, the diamond industry and civil society organizations involved in the Process for contributing to the development, implementation and monitoring of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and recognizes, in particular, the progress made by Kimberley Process working groups, Participants and observers during 2007 in fulfilling the objectives set by the Chair to strengthen implementation of the peer review system, increase the transparency and accuracy of statistics, promote research into the traceability of diamonds, promote inclusiveness by broadening the level of involvement by both Governments and civil society in the Certification Scheme, foster a sense of ownership by Participants, improve information and communication flows and enhance the capacity of the Certification Scheme to respond to emerging challenges;

6. *Stresses* that the widest possible participation in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme is essential, and encourages all Member States to contribute to the work of the Kimberley Process by seeking membership, participating actively in the Certification Scheme and complying with its undertakings;

7. *Welcomes* the admission in 2007 of Liberia, Turkey and the Congo, and recognizes the increased involvement of civil society organizations, in particular those from producer countries, in the Kimberley Process;

8. *Also welcomes* the initiative announced in Brussels to address the issue of rough diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire by engaging all relevant stakeholders, including Côte d'Ivoire, to enhance the control and monitoring of the trade in rough diamonds in their territories, enhancing regional cooperation to strengthen compliance with the Kimberley Process, and supporting applicant countries in the West Africa region in their efforts to join the Process as called for in Security Council resolution 1643 (2005) of 15 December 2005;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Kimberley Process with the United Nations on the issue of diamonds from Côte d'Ivoire, including by assessing the volume of rough diamonds produced in and exported from Côte d'Ivoire as requested by Security Council resolution 1643 (2005), by sharing statistical data and other information with the Group of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire, and by taking action in line with paragraph 9 of resolution 61/28, in particular on the issues raised in reports of the Group of Experts,[38] calls for the full implementation of the resolution on the subject of illicit diamond production in Côte d'Ivoire adopted by the plenary meeting of the Process held in Moscow from 15 to 17 November 2005, and encourages continued cooperation between the Process and the United Nations in tackling this issue;

10. *Welcomes* the considerable efforts of Ghana in 2007 to enhance the credibility of its internal controls by monitoring exports, licensing miners and producing accurate diamond production data, all with assistance from the European Commission, South Africa, the United States of America and the World Diamond Council, by way of follow-up to the administrative decision on Ghana, adopted by the plenary meeting of the Kimberley Process, held in Gabarone from 6 to 9 November 2006, and notes the decision adopted by the Brussels plenary meeting in 2007 to introduce a risk-based approach to the monitoring of Ghana's rough diamond exports;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* that in line with paragraph 7 of its resolution 60/182 and paragraph 7 of its resolution 61/28, the preliminary development of "footprints", size-frequency distribution diagrams, that characterize diamond production from Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana has been undertaken, and encourages expeditious commencement of further work to develop similar footprints for other diamond producers, while thanking the European Commission for hosting a workshop on traceability techniques to identify the origin of diamonds through optical, physical and chemical analysis and encouraging all Participants to support further efforts to place diamond identification techniques on a sound scientific basis;

12. *Welcomes* the Declaration on internal controls in diamond trading and manufacturing centres endorsed by the Brussels plenary meeting, and encourages all such centres to carry out effective enforcement measures as part of their internal controls to ensure adequate government oversight over the trade in rough diamonds;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Working Group of the Kimberley Process of Artisanal Alluvial Producers, under the leadership of Angola, to analyse internal controls and the challenges faced by each country with respect to its artisanal alluvial diamond production, and plans to spread best practices and improve community involvement through a programme of field visits;

14. *Welcomes* the strengthening of the South American subgroup of Artisanal Alluvial Producers, and its intention to meet to discuss regional cooperation on the challenges faced in controlling diamond production and trade, and also welcomes

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[36] World Trade Organization, document G/C/W/559/Rev.1. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[37] A/62/543, annex, and A/62/543/Add.1.

[38] See S/2006/735 and S/2007/611.

the invitation extended by Venezuela for a visit led by the Chair of the Kimberley Process to take place during the first quarter of 2008;

15. *Warmly welcomes* the admission of Liberia as a Participant in the Kimberley Process in May 2007, following three separate Kimberley Process expert missions to advise and assess its system for controlling diamonds, notes with appreciation the considerable support and technical assistance provided by the Kimberley Process community prior to the decision by the Security Council to lift diamond sanctions, and continues to encourage all those in a position to do so to assist Liberia with implementation of Kimberley Process standards;

16. *Notes with appreciation* the considerable progress made in carrying out the recommendations arising out of the three-year review of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme adopted by the Gabarone plenary meeting in 2006, and notes that they should contribute to the strengthening and consolidation of the Process;

17. *Recognizes* that the peer review mechanism and the collection and submission of statistical data are critical monitoring tools, essential for effective implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and in this respect:

(*a*) Notes with satisfaction that virtually all Kimberley Process Participants, as well as several applicants, have received peer review visits, and that several countries and a regional economic integration organization have already invited a second review visit, and calls upon other Participants to invite further visits;

(*b*) Welcomes the strengthening of the peer review mechanism by the adoption of a revised administrative decision on peer review;

(*c*) Notes with satisfaction the publication of Kimberley Process trade and production data, welcomes the progress made towards the collection and submission of complete and accurate statistical reports on the production of and trade in rough diamonds, and encourages all of the Process Participants to continue to enhance the quality of data, and to respond promptly to Process analyses of these data;

18. *Notes with satisfaction* the systematization of the work of the Kimberley Process with respect to continuing to develop transparent and uniform rules and procedures and introducing a mechanism for consultation and coordination in the Process;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the assistance and capacity-building efforts extended by various donors, and encourages other donors to provide financial and technical expertise to Kimberley Process Participants to help them to develop tighter monitoring and control measures;

20. *Acknowledges with great appreciation* the important contribution that the European Community, as Chair of the Kimberley Process in 2007, has made to the efforts to curb the trade in conflict diamonds, and welcomes the selection of India as Chair and Namibia as Vice-Chair of the Process for 2008;

21. *Requests* the Chair of the Kimberley Process to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the Process;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict".

RESOLUTION 62/12

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 26 November 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.13 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia

62/12. Report of the International Criminal Court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/15 of 20 November 2006 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[39] reaffirms the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reiterating the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute, the tenth anniversary of which will be marked on 17 July 2008,

Emphasizing that justice, especially transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict societies, is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace,

Convinced that ending impunity is essential if a society in conflict or recovering from conflict is to come to terms with past abuses committed against civilians affected by armed conflict and to prevent future such abuses,

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[39] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

Noting with satisfaction the fact that the International Criminal Court has achieved considerable progress in its analyses, investigations and judicial proceedings in various situations and cases which were referred to it by States parties to the Rome Statute and by the Security Council, in accordance with the Rome Statute,

Recalling that effective and comprehensive cooperation and assistance in all aspects of its mandate by States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations remains essential for the International Criminal Court to carry out its activities,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for providing effective and efficient assistance to the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court ("Relationship Agreement"),[40]

Acknowledging the Relationship Agreement as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/318 of 13 September 2004, including paragraph 3 of the resolution with respect to the payment in full of expenses accruing to the United Nations as a result of the implementation of the Relationship Agreement,[41] which provides a framework for continued cooperation between the International Criminal Court and the United Nations, which could include the facilitation by the United Nations of the Court's field activities, and encouraging the conclusion of supplementary arrangements and agreements, as necessary,

Welcoming the continuous support given by civil society to the International Criminal Court,

Recognizing the role of the International Criminal Court in a multilateral system that aims to end impunity, establish the rule of law, promote and encourage respect for human rights and achieve sustainable peace, in accordance with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Expressing its appreciation to the International Criminal Court for providing assistance to the Special Court for Sierra Leone,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the International Criminal Court for 2006–2007;[42]

2. *Welcomes* the States that have become parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[39] in the past year, and calls upon all States in all regions of the world that are not yet parties to the Rome Statute to consider ratifying or acceding to it without delay;

3. *Welcomes* the States parties as well as States not parties to the Rome Statute that have become parties to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court,[43] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Agreement;

4. *Calls upon* States parties to the Rome Statute that have not yet done so to adopt national legislation to implement obligations emanating from the Rome Statute and to cooperate with the International Criminal Court in the exercise of its functions, and recalls the provision of technical assistance by States parties in this respect;

5. *Welcomes* the cooperation and assistance provided thus far to the International Criminal Court by States parties as well as States not parties, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, and calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences;

6. *Invites* regional organizations to consider concluding cooperation agreements with the International Criminal Court;

7. *Recalls* that, by virtue of article 12, paragraph 3, of the Rome Statute, a State which is not a party to the Rome Statute may, by declaration lodged with the Registrar of the International Criminal Court, accept the exercise of jurisdiction by the Court with respect to specific crimes that are mentioned in paragraph 2 of that article;

8. *Encourages* all States parties to take the interests, needs for assistance and mandate of the International Criminal Court into account when relevant matters are being discussed in the United Nations;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation of the Relationship Agreement,[40] which forms a framework for close cooperation between the two organizations and for consultation on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of the Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Rome Statute, as well as the need for the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the expenses incurred and reimbursements received by the United Nations in connection with assistance provided to the International Criminal Court;

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[40] See A/58/874 and Add.1.

[41] Articles 10 and 13 of the Relationship Agreement.

[42] See A/62/314.

[43] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2271, No. 40446.

10. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization,[44] in which the Secretary-General states that he will continue the policy of assisting and supporting the International Criminal Court in its endeavours, in all respect for the independent character of the Court;

11. *Notes* the fact that the International Criminal Court liaison office to United Nations Headquarters is now fully operational, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to work closely with that office;

12. *Encourages* States to contribute to the Trust Fund established for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court and of the families of such victims, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to the Trust Fund thus far;

13. *Notes* the work of the Special Working Group on the Crime of Aggression, which is open to all States on an equal footing, and encourages all States to consider participating actively in the Working Group with a view to elaborating proposals for a provision on the crime of aggression, in accordance with article 123 of the Rome Statute;

14. *Takes note* of the decision of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute at its fourth session, while recalling that according to article 112, paragraph 6, of the Rome Statute, the Assembly of States Parties shall meet at the seat of the International Criminal Court or at United Nations Headquarters, to hold its sixth session in New York, looks forward to the sixth session of the Assembly of States Parties, which is to be held in New York from 30 November to 14 December 2007, as well as to the resumed sixth session, which is to be held in New York from 2 to 6 June 2008, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and facilities in accordance with the Relationship Agreement and resolution 58/318;

15. *Encourages* the widest possible participation of States in the Assemblies of States Parties, invites States to contribute to the Trust Fund for the participation of least developed countries, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to the Trust Fund thus far;

16. *Invites* the International Criminal Court to submit, in accordance with article 6 of the Relationship Agreement, a report on its activities for 2007–2008, for consideration by the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/79

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.14 and Add.1, sponsored by: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Philippines, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

62/79. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/84 of 9 December 2003, in which it granted the Eurasian Economic Community observer status in the General Assembly,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural and humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking note of the fact that the membership of the Eurasian Economic Community includes countries with economies in transition, and recalling in this regard its resolution 61/210 of 20 December 2006, in which it invited the United Nations system to enhance dialogue with and increase support to the regional and subregional cooperation organizations whose membership includes countries with economies in transition and whose efforts include assisting their members to fully integrate into the world economy,

Noting that the Treaty on the Establishment of the Eurasian Economic Community[45] reaffirms the commitment of the States members of the Community to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and also to the generally accepted principles and norms of international law,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Eurasian Economic Community contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the activities of the Eurasian Economic Community in support of United Nations goals through the strengthening of regional cooperation in such areas as trade and economic development, the establishment of a customs union, energy, transport, agriculture and agro-industry, the regulation of migration, banking and finance, communications, education, health care and pharmaceuticals, environmental protection and natural disaster risk reduction;

2. *Notes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Eurasian Economic Community, and invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to conduct to this end regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Eurasian Economic Community, within existing resources, using for this

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[44] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/62/1).

[45] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2212, No. 39321.

purpose the relevant inter-institutional forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions, to cooperate and develop direct contacts with the Eurasian Economic Community for the purpose of undertaking joint implementation of programmes to achieve their goals;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community".

RESOLUTION 62/80

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 10 December 2007, by a recorded vote of 109 to 8, with 55 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.18 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu

62/80. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted by the General Assembly at its emergency special sessions and resolution 61/22 of 1 December 2006,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[46]

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Recalling also the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[47] endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,

Recalling further the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[48]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[49] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, and takes note of its annual report,[46] including the

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[46] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/62/35).

[47] S/2003/529, annex.

[48] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[49] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

conclusions and valuable recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the Middle East peace process and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations in its work in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people, particularly during this critical period of humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

6. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee in the performance of its tasks;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

RESOLUTION 62/81

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 10 December 2007, by a recorded vote of 110 to 8, with 54 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.19 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

62/81. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[50]

Taking note in particular of the relevant information contained in chapter V.B of that report,

Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution 61/23 of 1 December 2006,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 61/23;

2. *Considers* that, by assisting the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and

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[50] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/62/35).

constructive contribution to raising international awareness of the question of Palestine and generating international support for the rights of the Palestinian people and a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in the relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance, including, in particular, the monitoring of developments relevant to the question of Palestine, the organization of international meetings and conferences in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community, liaison and cooperation with civil society, the further development and expansion of the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, the preparation and widest possible dissemination of publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and the conduct of the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks;

6. *Requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity.

RESOLUTION 62/82

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 10 December 2007, by a recorded vote of 161 to 8, with 5 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.20/Rev.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Malawi, Tonga, Vanuatu

62/82. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[51]

Taking note in particular of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 61/24 of 1 December 2006,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides,

Recalling also the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[52]

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[51] Ibid.

[52] S/2003/529, annex.

Recalling further the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[53]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[54]

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

Expressing the hope that the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in its upcoming programme for 2008–2009, will further examine ways of fostering and encouraging the contribution of media in support of the peace process between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information in compliance with resolution 61/24;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for the biennium 2008–2009, in particular:

(*a*) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations;

(*b*) To continue to issue and update publications on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the relevant recent developments in that regard, in particular the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

(*c*) To expand its collection of audio-visual material on the question of Palestine, to continue the production and preservation of such material and to update, on a periodic basis, the public exhibit on the question of Palestine displayed in the General Assembly building;

(*d*) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

(*e*) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists, aiming in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine and at enhancing dialogue and understanding between Palestinians and Israelis for the promotion of a peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict;

(*f*) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the annual training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists.

RESOLUTION 62/83

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 10 December 2007, by a recorded vote of 161 to 7, with 5 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.21/Rev.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Tonga, Vanuatu

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[53] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[54] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

62/83. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004,

Welcoming the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

Noting with concern that it has been sixty years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and forty years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 61/25 of 1 December 2006,[55]

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in accordance with international law,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[56] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Convinced that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming also the illegality of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, including measures such as the so-called E-1 plan and all other unilateral measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the city and the territory as a whole,

Reaffirming further that the construction by Israel, the occupying Power, of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime, are contrary to international law,

Expressing deep concern about the continuing Israeli policy of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian personnel and goods, via imposition of crossing closures as well as of checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent negative impact on the socio-economic situation of the Palestinian people, which remains that of a dire humanitarian crisis,

Concerned about the continued establishment of Israeli checkpoints in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the transformation of several of these checkpoints into structures akin to permanent border crossings inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are severely impairing the territorial contiguity of the Territory and severely undermining efforts and aid aimed at rehabilitating and developing the Palestinian economy,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[57] and the agreements concluded between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Recalling also the endorsement by the Security Council, in resolution 1515 (2003), of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[58] and stressing the urgent need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

Welcoming the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[59]

Welcoming also the convening of the international conference held at Annapolis, United States of America, on 27 November 2007, in particular the decision by the parties to launch meaningful, direct negotiations towards the achievement of a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and ultimately the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East,

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[55] A/62/344-S/2007/553.

[56] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[57] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[58] S/2003/529, annex.

[59] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

Noting the important contribution to the peace process of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, including in the framework of the activities of the Quartet,

Welcoming the convening of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, under the chairmanship of Norway, on 24 September 2007, as well as the Paris donors' conference of 17 December 2007 to mobilize donors in follow-up to the Annapolis conference to provide financial support to the Palestinian Authority to enable it to build a prosperous and viable Palestinian State and, in the meantime, to also provide assistance to alleviate the socio-economic and humanitarian crisis being faced by the Palestinian people, and acknowledging the contribution of the Temporary International Mechanism in this regard,

Recognizing the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Authority, with international support, to rebuild, reform and strengthen its damaged institutions, and emphasizing the need to preserve the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure,

Expressing its concern over the negative developments that have continued to occur in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the large number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, the widespread destruction of public and private Palestinian property and infrastructure, the internal displacement of civilians and the serious deterioration of the socio-economic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people,

Expressing its grave concern over repeated military actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the reoccupation of Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces, and emphasizing in this regard the need for the implementation by both sides of the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the importance of the dismantlement of the settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map,

Expressing concern over the unlawful takeover of Palestinian Authority institutions in the Gaza Strip in June 2007, and calling for the restoration of the situation to that which existed prior to June 2007 to allow for the resumption of a dialogue for the restoration of Palestinian national unity,

Stressing the urgent need for sustained and active international involvement, including by the Quartet, to support both parties in revitalizing the peace process towards the resumption and acceleration of direct negotiations between the parties for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement, on the basis of United Nations resolutions, the road map and the Arab Peace Initiative,

Acknowledging the efforts being undertaken by civil society to promote a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Taking note of the findings by the International Court of Justice, in its advisory opinion, including on the urgent necessity for the United Nations as a whole to redouble its efforts to bring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which continues to pose a threat to international peace and security, to a speedy conclusion, thereby establishing a just and lasting peace in the region,[60]

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects, and of intensifying all efforts towards that end;

2. *Also reaffirms* its full support for the Middle East peace process, which began in Madrid, and the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides, stresses the necessity for the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and welcomes in this regard the ongoing efforts of the Quartet and of the League of Arab States;

3. *Welcomes* the Arab Peace Initiative, adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session[59] and the follow-up steps being undertaken by the Ministerial Committee formed after reaffirmation of the Initiative by the Riyadh summit in March 2007;

4. *Welcomes also* the international conference convened at Annapolis, and encourages the parties to undertake immediate steps in follow-up to their joint understanding, including through active and serious resumed bilateral negotiations;

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[60] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 161.

5. *Welcomes further* the appointment of the Quartet's Special Representative, Tony Blair, and his efforts to strengthen Palestinian institutions, promote Palestinian economic development and mobilize international donor support;

6. *Calls upon* the parties themselves, with the support of the Quartet and other interested parties, to exert all efforts necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation, to reverse all measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000 and to sustain and accelerate direct peace negotiations towards the conclusion of a final peaceful settlement on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions, especially of the Security Council, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, the road map[58] and the Arab Peace Initiative;

7. *Underscores* the need for the parties to undertake, with the support of the Quartet and the international community, confidence-building measures aimed at improving the situation, promoting stability and fostering the peace process, recognizes in this respect recent developments such as the opening of a Gaza border crossing for agricultural goods and the release of some prisoners, and emphasizes the contribution of such measures to the overall environment between the two sides and the well-being of the Palestinian people in particular;

8. *Calls upon* both parties to fulfil their obligations in respect of the implementation of the road map by taking parallel and reciprocal steps in this regard;

9. *Stresses* the need for a speedy end to the reoccupation of Palestinian population centres, inter alia, by easing movement and access, including by the removal of checkpoints within the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

10. *Also stresses* the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

11. *Notes* the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the dismantlement of the settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map, and the need for the parties to resolve all remaining issues in the Gaza Strip;

12. *Stresses* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, and the need, in specific, to allow for the opening of all crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip for humanitarian supplies, movement and access as well as for commercial flows, which are essential for improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people and ensuring the viability of the Palestinian economy;

13. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease all of its measures that are contrary to international law and unilateral actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are aimed at altering the character and status of the Territory, including via the de facto annexation of land, and thus at prejudging the final outcome of peace negotiations;

14. *Demands*, accordingly, that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion[56] and as demanded in resolutions ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003 and ES-10/15 and, inter alia, that it immediately cease its construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and calls upon all States Members of the United Nations to comply with their legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion;

15. *Reiterates its demand* for the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

16. *Reaffirms its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

17. *Stresses* the need for:

(*a*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem;

(*b*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

18. *Also stresses* the need for justly resolving the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

19. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority during this critical period to help to alleviate the humanitarian crisis being faced by the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to rehabilitate the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and to support the rebuilding, restructuring and reform of Palestinian institutions;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.

RESOLUTION 62/84

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 10 December 2007, by a recorded vote of 160 to 6, with 7 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.22 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Angola, Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu

62/84. Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all subsequent resolutions, including resolution 56/31 of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling further the Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" on Jerusalem,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,*[61] and recalling resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Expressing its grave concern about any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Expressing its grave concern in particular about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of illegal settlement activities, including the so-called E-1 plan, its construction of the wall in and around East Jerusalem, its restrictions on access to and residence in East Jerusalem, and the further isolation of the city from the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which is having a detrimental effect on the lives of Palestinians and could prejudge a final status agreement on Jerusalem,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimensions of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[62]

1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever, and calls upon Israel to cease all such illegal and unilateral measures;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of those States that had established diplomatic missions in Jerusalem to withdraw their missions from the city, in compliance with Security Council resolution 478 (1980);

3. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by the people of all religions and nationalities;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[61] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[62] A/62/327.

RESOLUTION 62/85

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 10 December 2007, by a recorded vote of 111 to 6, with 56 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.23 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

62/85. The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[63]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[64] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and other activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

Expressing grave concern over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907,[65] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War,[64] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

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[63] A/62/327.

[64] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[65] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/88

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.31, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

62/88. Declaration of the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children

The General Assembly

Adopts the following Declaration:

Declaration of the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children

1. We, the representatives of States gathered at the commemorative high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, are encouraged by the progress achieved since 2002 in creating a world fit for children. Fewer children under five are dying each year. More children are in school than ever before. More educational opportunities are being equally extended to girls and boys. More medicines are available for children, including those infected by HIV/AIDS. More laws, policies and plans are in place to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation. Our present and future actions should build upon those important gains.

2. Yet many challenges persist. Eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge, as poverty poses difficulties to meeting the needs, protecting and promoting the rights of all children in the world. Despite encouraging achievements, the number of children dying before their fifth birthday remains unacceptably high. Malnutrition, pandemics, including HIV/AIDS, as well as malaria, tuberculosis and other preventable diseases continue to be a hindrance to a healthy life for millions of children. Lack of access to education remains a significant obstacle to their development. A large number of children are still subject to violence, exploitation and abuse, as well as to inequity and discrimination, in particular against the girl child. We will work to break the cycle of poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, create an environment that is conducive to the well-being of children and realize all the rights of the child.

3. We reaffirm our commitment to the full implementation of the Declaration and Plan of Action contained in the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[66] recognizing that their implementation and the fulfilment of obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[67] the Optional Protocols thereto[68] and other relevant international instruments are mutually reinforcing in protecting the rights and promoting the well-being of all children. In all our actions, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.

4. A scaled-up, cross-sectorial response by Governments, increased international cooperation and broader and more focused partnerships, including with the mass media and the private sector, and global, regional and national initiatives are critical to the achievement of the goals of the special session on children. We reaffirm our determination to pursue the agreed global targets and actions for mobilizing resources for children, in accordance with "A world fit for children".

5. As we welcome the voices and the views of children, including adolescents, heard at the commemorative plenary meeting, we strive to strengthen their participation in the decisions that affect them, in accordance with their age and maturity.

6. We renew our political will to intensify our efforts towards building a world fit for children. We are confident that our collective aspirations will be realized if all relevant actors, including civil society, are united for children. All our policies and programmes should promote the shared responsibility of parents, families, legal guardians and other caregivers and society as a whole in this regard, bearing in mind that a child should grow up in a safe and supportive family environment. By giving high priority to the rights of children, to their survival and to their protection and development, we serve the best interest of all humanity. In solidarity, we will pursue our common vision of ensuring the well-being of all children in all societies, with a collective sense of urgency.

RESOLUTION 62/89

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.6 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo,

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[66] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[67] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[68] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

62/89. International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed",

Recalling also its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001–2010 the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, and resolutions 56/5 of 5 November 2001, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, 58/11 of 10 November 2003, 59/143 of 15 December 2004, 60/3 of 20 October 2005 and 61/45 of 4 December 2006,

Reaffirming the Declaration[69] and Programme of Action[70] on a Culture of Peace, recognizing that they serve, inter alia, as the basis for the observance of the Decade, and convinced that the effective and successful observance of the Decade throughout the world will promote a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[71] which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/66 of 26 April 2000 entitled "Towards a culture of peace",[72]

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,[73] including paragraph 28 thereof, which indicates that each of the ten years of the Decade will be marked with a different priority theme related to the Programme of Action,

Noting the relevance of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the special session of the General Assembly on children, held in New York from 8 to 10 May 2002, the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, and the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, for the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, as well as the need to implement, as appropriate, the relevant decisions agreed upon therein,

Recognizing that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for peacekeeping, peacebuilding, the prevention of conflicts, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, democracy, the rule of law, good governance and gender equality at the national and international levels contribute greatly to the culture of peace,

Noting that its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict could contribute to the further promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking into account the "Manifesto 2000" initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promoting a culture of peace, which has so far received over seventy-five million signatures of endorsement throughout the world,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of resolution 61/45,[74]

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[69] Resolution 53/243 A.

[70] Resolution 53/243 B.

[71] See resolution 55/2.

[72] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[73] A/56/349.

[74] See A/62/97.

Taking note of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly,[75]

Welcoming the designation of 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence,[76]

Also welcoming the appointment by the Secretary-General of the High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations,

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, is to strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000;

2. *Invites* Member States to continue to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular during the Decade, at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

3. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for recognizing the promotion of a culture of peace as the expression of its fundamental mandate, and encourages it, as the lead agency for the Decade, to strengthen further the activities it has undertaken for promoting a culture of peace, including the dissemination of the Declaration[69] and Programme of Action[70] on a Culture of Peace and related materials in various languages across the world;

4. *Also commends* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the University for Peace, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action, and encourages them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts;

5. *Encourages* the Peacebuilding Commission to promote a culture of peace and non-violence for children in its activities;

6. *Encourages* the appropriate authorities to provide education, in children's schools, that includes lessons in mutual understanding, tolerance, active citizenship, human rights and the promotion of a culture of peace;

7. *Commends* civil society, including non-governmental organizations and young people, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness on a culture of peace, and takes note of the progress achieved by more than seven hundred organizations in more than one hundred countries;

8. *Encourages* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to further strengthen its efforts in furtherance of the objectives of the Decade, inter alia, by adopting its own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations;

9. *Encourages* the involvement of the mass media in education for a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people, including through the planned expansion of the Culture of Peace News Network as a global network of Internet sites in many languages;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue the communication and networking arrangements established during the International Year for providing an instant update of developments related to the observance of the Decade;

11. *Invites* Member States to observe 21 September of each year as the International Day of Peace, as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with resolution 55/282 of 7 September 2001;

12. *Invites* Member States, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue providing information to the Secretary-General on the observance of the Decade and the activities undertaken to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

13. *Appreciates* the participation of Member States in the day of plenary meetings to review progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action and the observance of the Decade at its midpoint;

14. *Also appreciates* the participation of Member States in the high-level dialogue on interreligious and intercultural cooperation for the promotion of tolerance, understanding and universal respect on matters of freedom of religion or belief and cultural diversity, held on 4 and 5 October 2007, in accordance with resolution 61/221 of 20 December 2006;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore enhancing mechanisms for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

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[75] See resolution 60/1.

[76] See resolution 61/271.

RESOLUTION 62/90

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.17/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan

62/90. Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[77] in particular the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,

Recalling its resolutions 56/6 of 9 November 2001, on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, concerning the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, 57/337 of 3 July 2003, on the prevention of armed conflict, 58/128 of 19 December 2003, on the promotion of religious and cultural understanding, harmony and cooperation, 59/23 of 11 November 2004, on the promotion of interreligious dialogue, 59/143 of 15 December 2004, on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, 60/167 of 16 December 2005, on human rights and cultural diversity, and 61/161 of 19 December 2006, on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Recalling also its resolution 61/221 of 20 December 2006, on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace,

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Taking into account that in its resolution 46, the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization recommended that the General Assembly proclaim 2010 the international year for the rapprochement of cultures,[78]

Taking note of the valuable contribution of various initiatives at the national, regional and international levels to enhancing dialogue, understanding and cooperation among religions, cultures and civilizations, which are mutually reinforcing and interrelated,

Taking note also of the High-level Dialogue on Interreligious and Intercultural Understanding and Cooperation for Peace, with the overall theme of interreligious and intercultural cooperation for the promotion of tolerance, understanding and universal respect on matters of freedom of religion or belief and cultural diversity, held on 4 and 5 October 2007,

Affirming the importance of sustaining the process of engaging all stakeholders in the interreligious, intercultural and intercivilizational dialogue within the appropriate initiatives at the various levels,

Recognizing the commitment of all religions to peace,

1. *Affirms* that mutual understanding and interreligious dialogue constitute important dimensions of the dialogue among civilizations and of the culture of peace;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on interreligious dialogue in the context of its efforts to promote dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, as well as activities related to a culture of peace, and welcomes its focus on concrete action at the global, regional and subregional levels and its flagship project on the promotion of interfaith dialogue;

3. *Reaffirms* the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[77] and other instruments relating to human rights and international law, the universal nature of these rights and freedoms being beyond question;

4. *Welcomes* the designation of the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to play a focal point role,[79] as requested in resolution 61/221, and pursuant thereto, to interact with United Nations system entities and to coordinate their contribution to the intergovernmental process, and looks forward to its effective functioning;

5. *Encourages* Member States to consider, as and where appropriate, initiatives that identify areas for practical action in all sectors and levels of society for the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, tolerance,

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[77] Resolution 217 A (III).

[78] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-fourth Session, Paris, 16 October–2 November 2007*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, chap.V.

[79] See A/62/337, para. 27.

understanding and cooperation, through, inter alia, the ideas suggested during the High-level Dialogue on Interreligious and Intercultural Understanding and Cooperation for Peace;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to sustain the momentum generated by the High-level Dialogue in subsequent discussions;

7. *Encourages* the promotion of dialogue among the media from all cultures and civilizations, emphasizes that everyone has the right to freedom of expression, and reaffirms that the exercise of this right carries with it special duties and responsibilities and may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but these shall be only such as are provided by law and necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others, protection of national security or of public order, or of public health or morals;

8. *Decides* to declare 2010 the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, and recommends that, during the course of the year, appropriate events be organized on interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace, inter alia, a high-level dialogue and/or informal interactive hearings with civil society;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/91

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.30 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

62/91. Strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991, 57/152 of 16 December 2002, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/25 of 5 December 2003, 58/214 and 58/215 of 23 December 2003, 59/212 of 20 December 2004, 59/231 and 59/233 of 22 December 2004, 59/279 of 19 January 2005, 60/15 of 14 November 2005 and 61/132 of 14 December 2006,

Commending the prompt response, continued support, generous assistance and contributions of the international community, Governments, civil society, the private sector and individuals, in the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, which reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation to address the disaster,

Noting the Declaration on Action to Strengthen Emergency Relief, Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Prevention in the Aftermath of the Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster of 26 December 2004, adopted at the special meeting of leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, held in Jakarta on 6 January 2005,[80]

Recalling the Hyogo Declaration[81] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015,[82] as well as the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster,[83] adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[84]

Stressing the need to continue to develop and implement disaster risk reduction strategies and to integrate them, where appropriate, into national development plans, in particular through the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, so as to enhance the resilience of populations in disasters and reduce the risks to them, their livelihoods, the social and economic infrastructure and environmental resources, and stressing also the need for Governments to develop and implement effective national plans for hazard warning systems with a disaster risk reduction approach,

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[80] A/59/669, annex.

[81] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[82] Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2).

[83] Common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II).

[84] A/62/83-E/2007/67.

Emphasizing that disaster reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Emphasizing also the role of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in coordinating the establishment of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System, given the importance of strengthening regional and subregional cooperation and coordination, which is essential for effective early warning system arrangements for tsunamis,

Commending the operationalization of the Multi-Donor Voluntary Trust Fund on Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia, and inviting Governments, donor countries, relevant international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to consider contributing to the Trust Fund through financial contributions and technical cooperation to support the establishment of the tsunami early warning system in accordance with the needs of the countries of the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia so that the Trust Fund contributes to the development of an integrated early warning system based on adequate resources and comprising a network of collaborative centres connected to the global system,

Stressing the need for continued commitment to assist the affected countries and their peoples, particularly the most vulnerable groups, to fully recover from the catastrophic and traumatic effects of the disaster, including in their medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and welcoming Government and international assistance measures in this regard,

Noting that progress has been achieved in the recovery and rehabilitation efforts of tsunami-affected countries, and noting also that efforts and assistance are still required to re-establish the basis for long-term sustainable development,

Welcoming the development or strengthening of disaster management institutions in some affected countries that provide leadership in comprehensive disaster risk reduction as well as strengthen emergency response at local and national levels,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts by the Governments of affected countries to undertake the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, as well as in enhancing financial transparency and accountability, with respect to the channelling and utilization of resources, including, as appropriate, through the involvement of international public auditors;

2. *Recognizes and encourages* ongoing efforts to promote transparency and accountability among donors and recipient countries by means of, inter alia, a unified financial and sectoral information online tracking system, and highlights the importance of timely and accurate information on assessed needs and the sources and uses of funds, and the continued support of donors, where needed, for further development of online tracking systems in the affected countries;

3. *Stresses* the importance of a coordinated process of accessing lessons learned in the international response to a given humanitarian emergency and in this regard welcomes relevant efforts by Governments, international organizations and United Nations agencies and other multi-stakeholder efforts to identify and evaluate lessons learned from tsunami response and recovery operations in order to improve coordination and effectiveness of disaster response and post-disaster recovery,[85] and encourages international and national efforts to continue to strengthen the capacity for adequate disaster response and post-disaster recovery based on lessons learned;

4. *Encourages* donor communities and international and regional financial institutions, as well as the private sector and civil society, to strengthen partnerships and to continue to support the medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction needs of the affected countries;

5. *Urges* Governments of the affected countries to identify their unmet needs in terms of financial and technical assistance in order to foster the ongoing efforts to enhance national capacity and create a reliable tsunami early warning system in the region in concert with the activities of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of international agencies, donor countries and relevant civil society organizations in supporting the Governments of affected countries to develop national capacity for tsunami warning and response so as to increase public awareness and provide community-based support for disaster risk reduction;

7. *Encourages* the continued effective coordination among the Governments of affected countries, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, international organizations, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and private sectors involved in rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in order to ensure the effective implementation of existing joint programmes and to prevent unnecessary duplication and reduce vulnerability to future natural hazards, as well as to adequately respond to the remaining humanitarian needs, where needed;

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[85] Reports include: "The 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami Disaster: Evaluation of UNICEF's Response (Emergency and Initial Recovery Phase)"; "Survivors of the Tsunami: One Year Later – UNDP Assisting Communities to Build Back Better"; "Towards a United Nations humanitarian assistance programme for disaster response and reduction: lessons learned from the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster"; "Building a land of hope: one year report"; "Joint evaluation of the international response to the Indian Ocean tsunami: synthesis report".

8. *Emphasizes* the need for the development of stronger institutions, mechanisms and capacities at the regional, national and local levels, as affirmed in the Hyogo Declaration[81] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015,[82] and the promotion of public education, awareness and community participation, in order to systematically build resilience to hazards and disasters, as well as reduce the risks and the vulnerability of populations to disasters, including an effective and sustained tsunami warning system;

9. *Stresses* the need for relevant bodies of the United Nations system, international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector to implement programmes according to assessed needs and agreed priorities of the Governments of tsunami-affected countries and to ensure full transparency and accountability for their programme activities;

10. *Calls upon* States to fully implement the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015, in particular those commitments related to assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and for disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable, physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

11. *Stresses* the importance of and the need for regular updating of recovery assessment by the Governments of affected countries, the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions, based on the affected countries' national data and utilizing a consistent methodology, in order to reassess progress and identify gaps and priorities, with the participation of the local community during the recovery and reconstruction phase in order to build back better;

12. *Recognizes* that relevant activities in evaluating and strengthening the tsunami early warning systems have focused principally on establishing the system's governance structure, its technical implementation, increasing public awareness and preparedness, including training, and technical advice and that the Tsunami Recovery Impact Assessment and Monitoring System is a common analytical framework to assess and monitor the rate and direction of tsunami recovery;

13. *Welcomes* the establishment of Tsunami Warning Focal Points capable of receiving and disseminating tsunami advisories around the clock, and encourages the continuation of the efforts of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission supported by Member States, United Nations agencies and donors, including for developing national action plans for all countries participating in the Indian Ocean tsunami early warning system;

14. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in establishing partnership among relevant actors, and stresses the importance for countries to establish early warning systems that are people-centred;

15. *Encourages* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue his efforts to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations and other humanitarian and relevant development actors to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

16. *Urges* Governments and the United Nations system, in planning for disaster preparedness and responding to natural disasters, and in implementing recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, to integrate a gender perspective and provide every opportunity for women to take a full, active and equal role in all phases of disaster management;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways to strengthen the rapid response capacities of the international community to provide immediate humanitarian relief, building on existing arrangements and ongoing initiatives;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2008, with a view to reviewing the future consideration of this item.

RESOLUTION 62/92

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.34 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Norway, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

62/92. International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, as well as all its resolutions on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, and recalling the resolutions of the humanitarian segments of the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Welcoming the Hyogo Declaration,[86] the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[87] and the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future,[88] as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, from 18 to 22 January 2005,

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

Emphasizing also the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness, response and early recovery efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters, while recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities in this regard,

Noting that local communities are the first responders in most disasters, and underlining the critical role played by in-country capacities in disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, response and recovery,

Recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, in particular in preparedness, response and the early recovery phase, and of strengthening the response capacity of countries affected by disaster,

Noting with appreciation the important role played by Member States, including developing countries, that have granted necessary and continued generous assistance to countries and peoples stricken by natural disasters,

Recognizing the significant role played by national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development,

Emphasizing the importance of addressing vulnerability and integrating risk reduction into all phases of natural disaster management, post-natural disaster recovery and development planning,

Recognizing that efforts to achieve economic growth, sustainable development and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, can be adversely affected by natural disasters, and noting the positive contribution that those efforts can make in strengthening the resilience of populations to such disasters,

Emphasizing, in this context, the important role of development organizations in supporting national efforts to mitigate the consequences of natural disasters,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[89]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

3. *Calls upon* States to fully implement the Hyogo Declaration[86] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[87] in particular those commitments related to assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and for disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

4. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively, necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning, and in this regard requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, as appropriate;

5. *Welcomes* the effective cooperation among the affected States, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and other relevant organizations, such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and civil society, in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout relief operations and medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards;

6. *Reiterates* the commitment to support the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities at all levels in order to prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and mitigate their impact;

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[86] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[87] Ibid., resolution 2.

[88] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II.

[89] A/62/323.

7. *Stresses* that, to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, of regional and subregional capacities of developing countries for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, and more efficiently and at lower cost;

8. *Also stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the timely provision of humanitarian assistance through all phases of a disaster, from relief and recovery to development, including the provision of adequate resources;

9. *Takes note* that a review of the Central Register of Disaster Management Capacities, planned for 2008, is expected to assess its value added and user satisfaction, and requests the Secretary-General to report on its findings;

10. *Reaffirms* the role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for advocacy for and coordination of humanitarian assistance among United Nations humanitarian organizations and other humanitarian partners;

11. *Welcomes*, so as to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, the incorporation of experts from developing countries that are prone to natural disasters into the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination system, and the work of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group in assisting such countries in strengthening urban search and rescue capacities and establishing mechanisms for improving their coordination of national and international response in the field, and recalls in this regard its resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002 entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance";

12. *Recognizes* that information and telecommunication technology can play an important role in disaster response, encourages Member States to develop emergency response telecommunication capacities, and encourages the international community to assist the efforts of developing countries in this area, where needed, including in the recovery phase;

13. *Encourages* States that have not acceded to or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations[90] to consider doing so;

14. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies, as well as the sharing of geographical data, for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate;

15. *Reaffirms* the request made by the Economic and Social Council to the Secretary-General to review and report, in consultation with Member States, on the use of military assets for natural disaster response with the aim of improving the predictability and use of these assets, based on humanitarian principles, while emphasizing the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming the leading role of civilian organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance;

16. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and international financial institutions to enhance the global capacity for sustainable post-disaster recovery in areas such as coordination with traditional and non-traditional partners, identification and dissemination of lessons learned, development of common tools and mechanisms for recovery needs assessment, strategy development and programming, and incorporation of risk reduction into all recovery processes, and welcomes the ongoing efforts to this end;

17. *Encourages* Member States and relevant regional and international organizations to identify and improve the dissemination of best practices for improving disaster preparedness, response and early recovery and to scale-up successful local initiatives, as appropriate;

18. *Requests* the United Nations system to improve its coordination of disaster recovery efforts, from relief to development, inter alia, by strengthening institutional, coordination and strategic planning efforts in disaster recovery, in support of national authorities;

19. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations humanitarian and development organizations, in consultation with Member States, to strengthen tools and mechanisms to ensure that early recovery needs and support are considered as part of the planning and implementation of humanitarian response and development cooperation activities, as appropriate;

20. *Also calls upon* relevant United Nations humanitarian and development organizations to continue efforts to ensure continuity and predictability in their response and to further improve coordination in recovery processes in support of the efforts of national authorities;

21. *Stresses* the importance of rapid access to funds to ensure a more predictable and timely United Nations response to humanitarian emergencies, and welcomes in this regard the establishment of the Central Emergency Response Fund and its contribution to the promotion and enhancement of early humanitarian response;

22. *Emphasizes* the need to mobilize adequate, flexible and sustainable resources for recovery activities;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the international response to natural disasters, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

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[90] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

RESOLUTION 62/93

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.36 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/93. Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/135 of 14 December 2006, as well as previous resolutions on the question,

Recalling also the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[91] and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

Recalling further the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[92] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[92] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[93]

Gravely concerned at the deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in particular children, throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, which constitutes a mounting humanitarian crisis,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

Welcoming, in this context, the development of projects, notably on infrastructure, to revive the Palestinian economy and improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people, stressing the need to create the appropriate conditions to facilitate the implementation of these projects, and noting the contribution of partners in the region and the international community,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all people, in particular children, in the whole Middle East region,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact, including the health and psychological consequences, of violence on the present and future well-being of children in the region,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

Expressing grave concern about the humanitarian situation in Gaza following recent events, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Welcoming also the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, held in New York on 24 September 2007, and underlining the importance of the Paris donors' conference of 17 December 2007 in mobilizing the donors, following on from the international conference held in Annapolis, United States of America, on 27 November 2007, to provide financial and political support for the Palestinian Authority and, in the meantime, also to provide assistance to alleviate the socio-economic and humanitarian situation being faced by the Palestinian people,

Welcoming further the work of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people, and welcoming in this regard the support provided to the Palestinian Authority by the Task Force on Palestinian Reform, established by the Quartet in 2002,

Welcoming the appointment of the Quartet's Special Representative, Tony Blair, charged with developing, with the Government of the Palestinian Authority, a multi-year agenda to strengthen institutions, promote economic development and mobilize international funds,

Noting the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority in the activities of the Special Envoys of the Quartet,

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[91] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[92] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[93] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

Welcoming the endorsement by the Security Council, in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, of the performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[94] and stressing the need for its implementation and compliance with its provisions,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank as a step towards implementation of the road map,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[95]

Expressing grave concern about the continuation of the tragic and violent events that have led to many deaths and injuries, including among children,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[95]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and the perspective of the Paris donors' conference, and encourages donors, in this regard, to increase their direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority in accordance with its government programme in order to enable it to build a viable and prosperous Palestinian state;

7. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with priorities set forth by the Palestinian side;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian children and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions;

9. *Stresses* the role that the temporary international mechanism has been playing in assisting directly the Palestinian people, and welcomes its extension;

10. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

11. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

12. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of ensuring the free passage of humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

13. *Also stresses* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population within and into and out of the Gaza Strip;

14. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend as rapidly as possible to the Palestinian people emergency economic assistance and humanitarian assistance, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to counter the impact of the current crisis;

15. *Stresses* the need for the continued implementation of the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[96] including with regard to the full, prompt and regular transfer of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(*a*) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(*b*) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

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[94] S/2003/529, annex.

[95] A/62/82-E/2007/66.

[96] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

RESOLUTION 62/94

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.37 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Zambia

62/94. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations[97] and on the Central Emergency Response Fund,[98]

Reaffirming the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Noting with grave concern the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, and reaffirming the importance of implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[99] including by providing adequate resources for disaster risk reduction, including disaster preparedness,

Recognizing that building national and local preparedness and response capacity is critical to a more predictable and effective response,

Emphasizing the need to mobilize adequate, predictable, timely and flexible resources for humanitarian assistance based on and in proportion to assessed needs, with a view to ensuring fuller coverage of the needs in all sectors and across humanitarian emergencies,

Noting with grave concern that violence, including gender-based violence and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,

Reiterating the need for Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance, including by addressing the specific needs of men, women, boys and girls in a comprehensive and consistent manner,

Reaffirming the need for all humanitarian personnel, United Nations and associated personnel and non-governmental organizations to maintain transparency and to act in a manner that is in accordance with the principles for the provision of humanitarian assistance and with their obligations under relevant provisions of international law and national laws, and to remain sensitive to local customs and traditions in the countries of their assignment,

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by the United Nations to improve humanitarian response, including by strengthening humanitarian response capacities, by improving humanitarian coordination and by enhancing predictable and adequate funding,

Recognizing that in the improvement of the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, United Nations organizations should work in close coordination with national Governments,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome of the tenth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2007;

2. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue his efforts to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance, and calls upon relevant United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and relevant development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

3. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement of and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors, to pursue efforts to improve the humanitarian response to natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies by further strengthening the humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by continuing to strengthen the coordination of

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[97] A/62/87-E/2007/70.

[98] A/62/72-E/2007/73.

[99] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

humanitarian assistance at the field level, including with national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and by further enhancing transparency, performance and accountability;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen the support provided to United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including through the provision of necessary training, the identification of resources and by improving the identification and selection of United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators;

6. *Emphasizes* the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, reaffirms the leading role of civilian organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance, particularly in areas affected by conflicts, and affirms the need, in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be in conformity with international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles;

7. *Recalls* the request made by the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 12 of its resolution 2007/3 of 17 July 2007 that the Secretary-General review and report on, in consultation with Member States, the use of military assets for disaster relief, with the aim of improving the predictability and use of these assets, based on humanitarian principles;

8. *Encourages* relevant United Nations organizations to strengthen the coordination and collaboration between development and humanitarian entities, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, in integrating disaster risk reduction into their activities;

9. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[99] welcomes the first meeting, in June 2007, of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and calls upon the international community to increase resources to reduce the risks of disasters associated with natural hazards, including by supporting early warning systems, as appropriate;

10. *Encourages* the international community to support efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters;

11. *Encourages* relevant United Nations organizations to support the efforts of Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen systems for identifying and monitoring disaster risk, including vulnerability and natural hazards;

12. *Encourages* States to create an enabling environment for the capacity-building of local authorities and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing humanitarian assistance;

13. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations to support the improvements of the consolidated appeals process, inter alia, by engaging in the preparation of needs analysis and common action plans, in order to further the development of the process as an instrument for United Nations strategic planning and prioritization, and by involving other relevant humanitarian organizations in the process, while reiterating that consolidated appeals are prepared in consultation with affected States;

14. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

15. *Calls upon* donors to provide adequate, timely, predictable and flexible resources based on and in proportion to assessed needs, including for under-funded emergencies, and encourages efforts to adhere to the principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship;

16. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Secretary-General in setting up appropriate monitoring, reporting and accountability mechanisms for the Central Emergency Response Fund, stresses the importance of continuing to ensure that the resources are allocated and used in the most efficient, effective and transparent manner possible, and looks forward to the independent review of the Fund in 2008;

17. *Reaffirms* the target of 500 million United States dollars by 2008, urges all Member States and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions to consider making voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and to resources made available for international development cooperation;

18. *Reiterates* that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding;

19. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

20. *Calls upon* States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to acts of violence committed against civilian populations in armed conflicts as well as to ensure that those responsible are promptly brought to justice, as provided for by national law and obligations under international law;

21. *Urges* all Member States to take effective measures to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies, and to make all possible efforts to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence;

22. *Calls upon* all Member States, and encourages the relevant organizations of the United Nations to strengthen support services, including psychosocial support, to victims of gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies;

23. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[100] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for international support, upon request, to capacity-building efforts of States;

24. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel as well as delivery of supplies and equipment in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

25. *Re-emphasizes* the importance of the discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and that these discussions should be continuously revitalized by Member States with a view to enhancing their relevance, efficiency and impact;

26. *Encourages* Member States to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on humanitarian issues, based on their respective mandates and taking into account comparative advantages and existing complementarities of the two bodies;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2008, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations and to submit a report to the Assembly on the independent review of the Central Emergency Response Fund in 2008.

RESOLUTION 62/95

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.38 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

62/95. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Recalling all relevant resolutions on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, including its resolution 61/133 of 14 December 2006, as well as Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003 and relevant statements by the President of the Council,

Recalling also all Security Council resolutions and presidential statements and reports of the Secretary-General to the Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict,

Recalling further all relevant provisions of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, as well as all relevant treaties,[101]

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Urging all parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August

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[100] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[101] They include, notably, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947, the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 8 December 2005 (not yet in force), the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 8 June 1977, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996 to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980.

1949[102] and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto, of 8 June 1977,[103] to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

Welcoming the fact that the number of States parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[104] which entered into force on 15 January 1999, has continued to rise, the number now having reached eighty-two, and mindful of the need to promote universality of the Convention,

Deeply concerned by the dangers and security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel at the field level, as they operate in increasingly complex contexts, as well as the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international law, in particular international humanitarian law,

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, often at great personal risk, especially locally recruited staff,

Expressing profound regret at the deaths of and violent acts against international and national humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and strongly deploring the rising toll of casualties among such personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations,

Strongly condemning acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children, and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property,

Expressing deep concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the provision of assistance and protection to populations in need,

Affirming the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not operate with impunity, and that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law,

Recalling the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[105] and noting the role that the Court can play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

Reaffirming the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and associated humanitarian personnel, which constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, and mindful of the need to promote and enhance the security consciousness within the organizational culture of the United Nations and a culture of accountability at all levels,

Noting the importance of maintaining close collaboration between the United Nations and the host country on contingency planning, information exchange and risk assessment in the context of good mutual cooperation on issues relating to security of United Nations and associated personnel,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[106]

2. *Urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Strongly urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow those personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

5. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments;

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[102] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[103] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[104] Ibid., vol. 2051, No. 35457.

[105] Ibid., vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[106] A/62/324 and Corr.1.

6. *Also calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[105]

7. *Recalls with appreciation* the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[107] which expands the scope of legal protection under the Convention,[104] and calls upon all States to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol as soon as possible so as to ensure its rapid entry into force, and urges States parties to put in place appropriate national legislation, as necessary, to enable its effective implementation;

8. *Expresses deep concern* that, over the past decade, threats and attacks against the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel have escalated dramatically and that perpetrators of acts of violence seemingly operate with impunity;

9. *Strongly condemns* all threats and acts of violence against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, reaffirms the need to hold accountable those responsible for such acts, strongly urges all States to take stronger action to ensure that any such acts committed on their territory are investigated fully and to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice in accordance with national law and obligations under international law, and urges States to end impunity for such acts;

10. *Calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of the arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel, so as to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and urges them to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of those who have been arrested or detained in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

11. *Calls upon* all other parties involved in armed conflicts to refrain from abducting humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel or detaining them in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm or requirement of concession, any abductee or detainee;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, and also requests the Secretary-General to seek the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[108] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[109] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

13. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission, host country agreements and other related agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

14. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to respect and, where required, observe the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

15. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel remain sensitive to national and local customs and traditions in their countries of assignment and communicate clearly their purpose and objectives to local populations;

16. *Welcomes* ongoing efforts to promote and enhance the security consciousness within the organizational culture of the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures in this regard, including by further developing and implementing a unified security management system, as well as by disseminating and ensuring the implementation of the security procedures and regulations and by ensuring accountability at all levels, and in this regard recognizes the important work of the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat;

17. *Emphasizes* the importance of paying special attention to the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel engaged in United Nations peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations;

18. *Also emphasizes* the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who are particularly vulnerable to attacks and who account for the majority of casualties, requests the Secretary-General to keep under review the relevant internal United

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[107] Resolution 60/42, annex.

[108] Resolution 22 A (I).

[109] Resolution 179 (II).

Nations policy, operational and administrative arrangements that can contribute to providing locally recruited personnel with adequate safety and security, and calls upon humanitarian organizations to ensure that their staff are adequately informed about and trained in their respective organization's relevant security measures, plans and initiatives, which should be in line with applicable national law and international law;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with the minimum operating security standards and relevant codes of conduct and are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant national and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights law and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

20. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General and stresses the need to ensure that all United Nations staff members receive adequate security training, including training to enhance cultural awareness, prior to their deployment to the field, as well as the need to attach a high priority to stress management training and related counselling services for United Nations staff throughout the system, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

21. *Emphasizes* the importance of information on the range and scope of security incidents involving humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, including attacks against them, to clarify their operating environment;

22. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to further enhance the security management system of the United Nations, and in this regard invites the United Nations and, as appropriate, other humanitarian organizations, working closely with host States, to further strengthen the analysis of threats to their safety and security in order to manage security risks by facilitating informed decisions on the maintenance of an effective presence in the field, inter alia, to fulfil their humanitarian mandate;

23. *Stresses* that the effective functioning at the country level of security operations requires a unified capacity for policy, standards, coordination, communication, compliance and threat and risk assessment, and notes the benefits thereof to United Nations and associated personnel, including those achieved by the Department of Safety and Security since its establishment;

24. *Recognizes* the need to continue efforts to achieve a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations, both at the headquarters and the field levels, and requests the United Nations system, as well as Member States, to take all appropriate measures to that end;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, to continue to promote increased cooperation and collaboration among United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations, including between their headquarters and field offices, in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security, training and awareness, and calls upon all relevant United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations to support those efforts;

26. *Recognizes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far, as well as the need for continued efforts to enhance coordination and cooperation, both at the headquarters and the field levels, between the United Nations and other humanitarian and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field, taking into account relevant national and local initiatives in this regard, encourages collaborative initiatives to address security training needs, invites Member States to consider increasing support to those initiatives, and requests the Secretary-General to report on steps taken in this regard;

27. *Underlines* the need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations personnel, including through the consolidated appeals process, and encourages all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System, inter alia, with a view to reinforcing the efforts of the Department of Safety and Security for the safety and security of personnel working in emergency and humanitarian operations;

28. *Recalls* the essential role of telecommunication resources in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, calls upon States to consider acceding to or ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998, which entered into force on 8 January 2005,[110] and urges them to facilitate and expedite, consistent with their national laws and international obligations applicable to them, the use of communications equipment in such operations, inter alia, through limiting and, whenever possible, expeditiously lifting the restrictions placed on the use of communications equipment by United Nations and associated personnel;

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[110] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a comprehensive and updated report on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/96

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.26/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Botswana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

62/96. Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[111]

Recalling the findings and recommendations of the independent inquiry commissioned by the Secretary-General, with the approval of the Security Council, into the actions of the United Nations during the 1994 genocide in Rwanda,[112]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[113] particularly its recognition that all individuals, in particular vulnerable people, are entitled to freedom from fear and freedom from want, with an equal opportunity to enjoy all their rights and fully develop their human potential,

Recalling further its resolution 59/137 of 10 December 2004, in which it requested the Secretary-General to encourage relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to work with the Government of Rwanda to develop and implement programmes aimed at supporting vulnerable groups that continue to suffer from the effects of the 1994 genocide,

Recalling its resolution 60/225 of 23 December 2005, in which it urged Member States to develop educational programmes on the lessons of the genocide in Rwanda, and also requested the Secretary-General to establish a programme of outreach for Rwanda genocide victim remembrance and education, in order to prevent future acts of genocide,

Recognizing the numerous difficulties faced by survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly the orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence, who are poorer and more vulnerable as a result of the genocide, especially the many victims of sexual violence who have contracted HIV and have since either died or become seriously ill with AIDS,

Recognizing also Security Council resolution 1503 (2003) of 28 August 2003, in which the Council called upon the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda to take all possible measures to complete trial activities in 2008 and all of its work in 2010,

Firmly convinced of the necessity of restoring the dignity of the survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, which would help to promote reconciliation and healing in Rwanda,

Commending the tremendous efforts of the Government and people of Rwanda and civil society organizations, as well as international efforts, to provide support for restoring the dignity of the survivors, including the allocation by the Government of Rwanda of 5 per cent of its national budget every year to support genocide survivors,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to encourage the relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to implement resolution 59/137 expeditiously, inter alia, by providing assistance in the areas of education for orphans, medical care and treatment for victims of sexual violence, including HIV-positive victims, trauma and psychological counselling, and skills training and microcredit programmes aimed at promoting self-sufficiency and alleviating poverty;

2. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue the activities of the programme of outreach entitled "The Rwanda Genocide and the United Nations" aimed at Rwanda genocide victim remembrance and education, in order to help to prevent future acts of genocide;

3. *Notes* the importance of residual issues including witness protection and victim support, the archives of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and judicial issues and capacity-building for the Rwandan judiciary, and underlines the need for increased and sustained attention to these issues;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Government of Rwanda, to encourage the relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to take appropriate steps to support, in particular, efforts to enhance judicial capacity-building and victim support in Rwanda;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation of the survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda completion strategy, to take all necessary and practicable measures for the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence".

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[111] Resolution 217 A (III).

[112] See S/1999/1257.

[113] See resolution 60/1.

RESOLUTION 62/97

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.33, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/97. Graduation of Samoa

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/35 of 27 July 2007 on the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its eighth session,

Taking into account its resolution 59/209 of 20 December 2004 on a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

Takes note of the decision of the Economic and Social Council to endorse the recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy that Samoa be graduated from the list of least developed countries.[114]

RESOLUTION 62/122

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.32 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/122. Permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/19 of 28 November 2006, entitled "Commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade",

Recalling also the designation of 25 March 2007 as the International Day for the Commemoration of the Two-hundredth Anniversary of the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[115] which focuses on initiatives undertaken by States to implement paragraphs 101 and 102 of the Durban Declaration of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance aimed at countering the legacy of slavery and contributing to the restoration of the dignity of the victims of slavery and the slave trade,[116]

Recognizing how little is known about the four-hundred-year-long transatlantic slave trade and its lasting consequences, felt throughout the world, and welcoming the increased attention that the General Assembly commemoration brought to the issue, including the raising of its profile in many States,

Recalling, in particular, paragraph 101 of the Durban Declaration which, inter alia, invited the international community and its members to honour the memory of the victims,

1. *Welcomes* the initiative of the States members of the Caribbean Community to erect in the halls of the United Nations a permanent memorial in acknowledgement of the tragedy and in consideration of the legacy of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade;

2. *Notes* the establishment of a voluntary fund for the erection of a permanent memorial, expresses sincere appreciation to those Member States that have already made contributions to the fund, and invites other interested parties to do likewise;

3. *Decides* to designate 25 March as an annual International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, beginning in 2008, as a complement to the existing International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with and building upon the work undertaken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, including its Slave Route Project, to establish a programme of educational outreach to mobilize, inter alia, educational institutions and civil society on the subject of remembering the transatlantic slave trade and slavery, in order to inculcate future generations with the causes, consequences and lessons of the transatlantic slave trade and to communicate the dangers of racism and prejudice;

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[114] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 13* (E/2006/33), chap. I, sect. A, recommendation 2.

[115] A/62/270.

[116] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the establishment and implementation of the programme;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session an item entitled "Follow-up to the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade".

RESOLUTION 62/177

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.24 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Austria, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Kenya, Latvia, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

62/177. Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/215 of 20 December 1991, 49/116 of 19 December 1994, and 50/24 and 50/25 of 5 December 1995, as well as its resolutions 56/13 of 28 November 2001, 58/14 of 24 November 2003, 59/25 of 17 November 2004, 60/31 of 29 November 2005 and 61/105 of 8 December 2006, and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention"),[117] and bearing in mind the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ("the Agreement"),[118]

Recognizing that, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement sets forth provisions concerning the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including provisions on compliance and enforcement by the flag State and subregional and regional cooperation in enforcement, binding dispute settlement and the rights and obligations of States in authorizing the use of vessels flying their flags for fishing on the high seas, and specific provisions to address the requirements of developing States in relation to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and the development of fisheries for such stocks,

Welcoming the fact that a growing number of States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, as well as regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, have taken measures, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement,

Welcoming also the recent ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement,

Welcoming further the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries and the 2005 Rome Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, adopted by the Ministerial Meeting on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on 12 March 2005,[119] which calls for effective implementation of the various instruments already developed to ensure responsible fisheries, and recognizing that the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations ("the Code")[120] and its associated international plans of action set out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices for conservation of fisheries resources and the management and development of fisheries,

Welcoming the outcomes, including the decisions and recommendations, of the twenty-seventh session of the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held from 5 to 9 March 2007,[121]

Noting with concern that effective management of marine capture fisheries has been made difficult in some areas by unreliable information and data caused by unreported and misreported fish catch and fishing effort and that this lack of accurate data contributes to overfishing in some areas, and therefore welcoming the adoption of the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries[122] and the development of the Fishery Resources Monitoring System initiative by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to improve knowledge and understanding of fishery status and trends,

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[117] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[118] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

[119] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Outcome of the Ministerial Meeting on Fisheries, Rome, 12 March 2005* (CL 128/INF/11), appendix B.

[120] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. III.

[121] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the twenty-seventh session of the Committee on Fisheries, Rome, 5–9 March 2007*, FAO Fisheries Report No. 830 (FIEL/R830 (En)).

[122] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee on Fisheries, Rome, 24–28 February 2003*, FAO Fisheries Report No. 702 (FIPL/R702 (En)), appendix H.

Recognizing the significant contribution of sustainable fisheries to food security, income, wealth and poverty alleviation for present and future generations,

Recognizing also the urgent need for action at all levels to ensure the long-term sustainable use and management of fisheries resources through the wide application of the precautionary approach,

Deploring the fact that fish stocks, including straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in many parts of the world are overfished or subject to sparsely regulated and heavy fishing efforts, as a result of, inter alia, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, inadequate flag State control and enforcement, including monitoring, control and surveillance measures, inadequate regulatory measures, harmful fisheries subsidies and overcapacity,

Noting the limited information available on measures taken by States to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Particularly concerned that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing constitutes a serious threat to fish stocks and marine habitats and ecosystems, to the detriment of sustainable fisheries as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States,

Recognizing that effective deterrence and combating of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has significant financial and other resource implications,

Recognizing also that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing may give rise to safety and security concerns for individuals on vessels engaged in such activities, and welcoming, in this regard, the adoption of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (Convention No. 188) at the International Labour Conference in Geneva, on 14 June 2007,

Welcoming cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization and the outcomes of the second session of their Joint Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters, held in Rome from 16 to 18 July 2007,

Recognizing the duty provided in the Convention, the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas ("the Compliance Agreement"), [123] the Agreement and the Code for flag States to exercise effective control over fishing vessels flying their flag, and vessels flying their flag which provide support to fishing vessels, to ensure that the activities of such fishing and support vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

Noting the obligation of all States, pursuant to the provisions of the Convention, to cooperate in the conservation and management of living marine resources, and recognizing the importance of coordination and cooperation at the global, regional, subregional as well as national levels in the areas, inter alia, of data collection, information-sharing, capacity-building and training for the conservation, management and sustainable development of marine living resources,

Welcoming recent developments regarding recommended best practices for regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that may help to strengthen their governance and promote their improved performance,

Calling attention to the need for States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to continue to develop and implement effective port State measures and schemes to combat overfishing and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and the critical need for cooperation with developing States to build their capacity in this regard, taking note of the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop a legally binding instrument on minimum standards for port State measures,

Concerned that marine pollution from all sources, including vessels and, in particular, land-based sources, constitutes a serious threat to human health and safety, endangers fish stocks, marine biodiversity and marine and coastal habitats and has significant costs to local and national economies,

Welcoming the support by the Committee on Fisheries at its twenty-seventh session for a proposal that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should undertake a scoping study to identify the key issues on climate change and fisheries, initiate a discussion on how the fishing industry can adapt to climate change and take a lead in informing fishers and policymakers about the likely consequences of climate change for fisheries,[121]

Recognizing that marine debris is a global transboundary pollution problem and that, due to the many different types and sources of marine debris, different approaches to their prevention and removal are necessary,

Noting that the contribution of sustainable aquaculture to global fish supplies continues to respond to opportunities in developing countries to enhance local food security and poverty alleviation and, together with efforts of other aquaculture producing countries, will make a significant contribution to meeting future demands in fish consumption, bearing in mind article 9 of the Code,

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[123] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39486.

Calling attention to the circumstances affecting fisheries in many developing States, in particular African States and small island developing States, and recognizing the urgent need for capacity-building, including the transfer of marine technology and in particular fisheries-related technology, to enhance the ability of such States to meet their obligations and exercise their rights under international instruments, in order to realize the benefits from fisheries resources,

Recognizing the need for appropriate measures to minimize by-catch, waste, discards, loss of fishing gear and other factors, which adversely affect fish stocks and may also have undesirable effects on the economies and food security of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities,

Recognizing also the need to further integrate ecosystem approaches into fisheries conservation and management and, more generally, the importance of applying ecosystem approaches to the management of human activities in the ocean,

Recognizing further the economic and cultural importance of sharks in many countries, the biological importance of sharks in the marine ecosystem as key predatory species, the vulnerability of certain shark species to overexploitation, the fact that some are threatened with extinction, the need for measures to promote the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark populations and fisheries, and the relevance of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1999, in providing guidance on the development of such measures,

Reaffirming its support for the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and relevant regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements on the conservation and management of sharks, while noting with concern that basic data on shark stocks and harvests continue to be lacking, that only a small number of countries have implemented the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, and that not all regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have adopted conservation and management measures for directed shark fisheries,

Expressing concern that the practice of large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing remains a threat to marine living resources, although the incidence of this practice has continued to be low in most regions of the world's oceans and seas,

Emphasizing that efforts should be made to ensure that the implementation of resolution 46/215 in some parts of the world does not result in the transfer to other parts of the world of drift nets that contravene the resolution,

Expressing concern over reports of continued losses of seabirds, particularly albatrosses and petrels, as well as other marine species, including sharks, fin-fish species and marine turtles, as a result of incidental mortality in fishing operations, particularly longline fishing, and other activities, while recognizing considerable efforts to reduce by-catch in longline fishing by States and through various regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,[124] in particular its useful role in gathering and disseminating information on or relating to the sustainable development of the world's living marine resources,

I

Achieving sustainable fisheries

1. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the marine living resources of the world's oceans and seas and the obligations of States to cooperate to this end, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention,[117] in particular the provisions on cooperation set out in Part V and Part VII, section 2, of the Convention, and where applicable, the Agreement;[118]

2. *Encourages* States to give due priority to the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"), [125] in relation to achieving sustainable fisheries;

3. *Emphasizes* the obligations of flag States to discharge their responsibilities, in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement, to ensure compliance by vessels flying their flag with the conservation and management measures adopted and in force with respect to fisheries resources on the high seas;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention, which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, taking into account the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement;

5. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply widely, in accordance with international law and the Code,[120] the precautionary approach and an ecosystem approach to the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks,

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[124] A/62/260.

[125] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

including straddling fish stocks, highly migratory fish stocks and discrete high seas fish stocks, and also calls upon States parties to the Agreement to implement fully the provisions of article 6 of the Agreement as a matter of priority;

6. *Encourages* States to increase their reliance on scientific advice in developing, adopting and implementing conservation and management measures, and to increase their efforts to promote science for conservation and management measures that apply, in accordance with international law, the precautionary approach and an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, enhancing understanding of ecosystem approaches, in order to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations[122] as a framework for the improvement and understanding of fishery status and trends;

7. *Also encourages* States to apply the precautionary approach and an ecosystem approach in adopting and implementing conservation and management measures addressing, inter alia, by-catch, pollution, overfishing, and protecting habitats of specific concern, taking into account existing guidelines developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

8. *Welcomes* the development of observer programmes by some regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to improve data collection on, inter alia, target and by-catch species, and encourages States, both individually and collectively, where appropriate, to develop, fully implement, and, where necessary, continue to improve robust observer programmes, taking into account standards for such programmes developed by some regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

9. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to collect and, where appropriate, report to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations required catch and effort data, and fishery-related information, in a complete, accurate and timely way, including for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks within and beyond areas under national jurisdiction, discrete high seas fish stocks, and by-catch and discards; and where they do not exist, to establish processes to strengthen data collection and reporting by members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, including through regular reviews of member compliance with such obligations, and when such obligations are not met, require the member concerned to rectify the problem, including through the preparation of plans of action with timelines;

10. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to cooperate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the implementation and further development of the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System initiative;

11. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of resolution 61/105, and calls upon States, including through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to urgently adopt measures to fully implement the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks for directed and non-directed shark fisheries, based on the best available scientific information, through, inter alia, limits on catch or fishing effort, by requiring that vessels flying their flag collect and regularly report data on shark catches, including species-specific data, discards and landings, undertaking, including through international cooperation, comprehensive stock assessments of sharks, reducing shark by-catch and by-catch mortality, and, where scientific information is uncertain or inadequate, not increasing fishing effort in directed shark fisheries until measures have been established to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark stocks and to prevent further declines of vulnerable or threatened shark stocks;

12. *Calls upon* States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of and compliance with existing regional fisheries management organization or arrangement and national measures that regulate shark fisheries, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins, and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached;

13. *Requests* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to prepare a report containing a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, as well as progress in implementing paragraph 11 of the present resolution, for presentation to the Committee on Fisheries at its twenty-eighth session, in 2009;

14. *Urges* States to eliminate barriers to trade in fish and fisheries products which are not consistent with their rights and obligations under the World Trade Organization agreements, taking into account the importance of the trade in fish and fisheries products, particularly for developing countries;

15. *Urges* States and relevant international and national organizations to provide for participation of small-scale fishery stakeholders in related policy development and fisheries management strategies in order to achieve long-term sustainability for such fisheries, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

II

Implementation of the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

16. *Calls upon* all States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, that have not done so to ratify or accede to the Agreement and in the interim to consider applying it provisionally;

17. *Calls upon* States parties to the Agreement to harmonize, as a matter of priority, their national legislation with the provisions of the Agreement, and to ensure that the provisions of the Agreement are effectively implemented into regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements of which they are a member;

18. *Emphasizes* the importance of those provisions of the Agreement relating to bilateral, regional and subregional cooperation in enforcement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

19. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that their vessels comply with the conservation and management measures that have been adopted by regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with relevant provisions of the Convention and of the Agreement;

20. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof to inform, either directly or through the relevant regional or subregional fisheries management organization or arrangement, all States whose vessels fish on the high seas in the same region or subregion of the form of identification issued by those States parties to officials duly authorized to carry out boarding and inspection functions in accordance with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement;

21. *Also urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, to designate an appropriate authority to receive notifications pursuant to article 21 and to give due publicity to such designation through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement;

22. *Notes with satisfaction* the adoption of procedures for high seas boarding and inspection that fully implement articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission at its third annual meeting, held in Apia from 11 to 15 December 2006, and invites other regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that the procedures developed for high seas boarding and inspection are consistent with the aforementioned articles;

23. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence over discrete high seas fish stocks, to adopt the necessary measures to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of such stocks in accordance with the Convention and consistent with the Code and the general principles set forth in the Agreement;

24. *Invites* States to assist developing States in enhancing their participation in regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, including by facilitating access to fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with article 25, paragraph 1 (*b*), of the Agreement, taking into account the need to ensure that such access benefits the developing States concerned and their nationals;

25. *Invites* States and international financial institutions and organizations of the United Nations system to provide assistance according to Part VII of the Agreement, including, if appropriate, the development of special financial mechanisms or instruments to assist developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, including developing their domestically flagged fishing fleet, value-added processing and the expansion of their economic base in the fishing industry, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

26. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement has begun to operate and consider applications for assistance by developing States parties to the Agreement, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, national institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial contributions to the Assistance Fund;

27. *Requests* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat further publicize the availability of assistance through the Assistance Fund, and solicit views from developing States parties to the Agreement regarding the application and award procedures of the Fund, and consider changes where necessary to improve the process;

28. *Encourages* States, individually and, as appropriate, through regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement the recommendations of the Review Conference on the Agreement, held in New York from 22 to 26 May 2006;[126]

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[126] See A/CONF.210/2006/15.

29. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of resolution 56/13, and requests the Secretary-General to convene in 2008, in accordance with past practice, a seventh round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, with the objective of discussing the implementation of the Agreement at the regional, subregional and global levels, taking into consideration the outcome of the Review Conference as regards proposed means of strengthening the implementation of the Agreement, promoting a wider participation in the Agreement and making any appropriate recommendations to be considered by the General Assembly;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, not party to the Agreement, as well as the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, the Commission on Sustainable Development, the World Bank, the Global Environment Facility and other relevant international financial institutions, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, other fisheries bodies, other relevant intergovernmental bodies and relevant non-governmental organizations, in accordance with past practice, to attend the seventh round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement as observers;

31. *Reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations initiate arrangements with States for the collection and dissemination of data on fishing in the high seas by vessels flying their flag at the subregional and regional levels where no such arrangements exist;

32. *Also reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations revise its global fisheries statistics database to provide information on straddling fish stocks, highly migratory fish stocks and discrete high seas fish stocks on the basis of where the catch is taken;

III

Related fisheries instruments

33. *Emphasizes* the importance of the effective implementation of the provisions of the Compliance Agreement,[123] and urges continued efforts in this regard;

34. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article X, paragraph 1, of the Compliance Agreement that have not yet become parties to that Agreement to do so as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to consider applying it provisionally;

35. *Urges* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to implement and promote the application of the Code within their areas of competence;

36. *Urges* States to develop and implement, as a matter of priority, national and, as appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effect the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

IV

Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

37. *Emphasizes once again its serious concern* that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing remains one of the greatest threats to marine ecosystems and continues to have serious and major implications for the conservation and management of ocean resources, and renews its call upon States to comply fully with all existing obligations and to combat such fishing and urgently to take all necessary steps to implement the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

38. *Urges* States to exercise effective control over their nationals, including beneficial owners, and vessels flying their flag, in order to prevent and deter them from engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities or supporting vessels engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, including those vessels listed by regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements as engaged in those activities, and to facilitate mutual assistance to ensure that such actions can be investigated and proper sanctions imposed;

39. *Also urges* States to take effective measures, at the national, regional and global levels, to deter the activities, including illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, of any vessel which undermines conservation and management measures that have been adopted by regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with international law;

40. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas or in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, unless duly authorized by the authorities of the States concerned and in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization, and to take specific measures, including deterring the reflagging of vessels by their nationals, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

41. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as requested by the Committee on Fisheries at its twenty-seventh session, to further consider the possibility of convening an expert consultation to develop criteria for assessing the performance of flag States as well as to examine possible actions against vessels flying the flags of States not meeting such criteria,[121] and encourages States to support this important initiative, including through preparatory work and funding;

42. *Urges* States, individually and collectively through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements,

to develop appropriate processes to assess the performance of States with respect to implementing the obligations regarding fishing vessels flying their flag set out in relevant international instruments;

43. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen, where necessary, the international legal framework for intergovernmental cooperation, in particular at the subregional and regional levels, in the management of fish stocks and in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in a manner consistent with international law, and for States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities, including, inter alia, the development and implementation of vessel monitoring systems and the listing of vessels in order to prevent illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities and, where appropriate and consistent with international law, trade monitoring schemes, including to collect global catch data, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

44. *Encourages* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to further coordinate measures for combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, such as through the development of a common list of vessels identified as engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing or the mutual recognition of the illegal, unreported and unregulated vessel lists established by each organization or arrangement;

45. *Reaffirms its call upon* States to take all necessary measures consistent with international law, without prejudice to a State's sovereignty over ports in its territory and to reasons of force majeure or distress, including the prohibition of vessels from accessing their ports followed by a report to the flag State concerned, when there is clear evidence that they are or have been engaged in or have supported illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, or when they refuse to give information either on the origin of the catch or on the authorization under which the catch has been made;

46. *Urges* further international action to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by vessels flying "flags of convenience" as well as to require that a "genuine link" be established between States and fishing vessels flying their flags, and calls upon States to implement the 2005 Rome Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing[119] as a matter of priority;

47. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level conference on the eradication of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, held in Lisbon on 29 October 2007, in relation to the need to reinforce fisheries control and surveillance measures and address the commercial dimension of the problem, so as to deprive all those involved in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing of any profits arising from such activities;

48. *Urges* States, individually and collectively through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to cooperate to clarify the role of the "genuine link" in relation to the duty of States to exercise effective control over fishing vessels flying their flag;

49. *Recognizes* the need for enhanced port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and urges States to cooperate, in particular at the regional level and through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt all necessary port measures, consistent with international law taking into account article 23 of the Agreement, particularly those identified in the Model Scheme on Port State Measures to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 2005, and to promote the development and application of minimum standards at the regional level;

50. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the adoption of agreed port State measures by several regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, such as the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, which include the denial of port access to vessels appearing in the lists of vessels identified as engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing established by these organizations;

51. *Also welcomes* the initiation of a process within the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop a legally binding instrument on minimum standards for port State measures, based on the Model Scheme on Port State Measures to Combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, notes the Organization's Expert Consultation on Port State Measures, held in Washington, D.C., from 4 to 8 September 2007, and encourages all relevant States to participate in the intergovernmental Technical Consultation, to be held in Rome from 23 to 28 June 2008, so that the finalized instrument may be presented to the Committee on Fisheries at its twenty-eighth session, in 2009;

52. *Further welcomes* the cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization, and notes the outcomes, including the agreed priorities, of the second session of their Joint Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters, which are under consideration by those two organizations, and encourages ongoing collaboration between them to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, particularly in improving the implementation of flag State responsibilities and port State measures;

53. *Encourages* States, with respect to vessels flying their flag, and port States, to make every effort to share data on

landings and catch quotas, and in this regard encourages regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements to consider developing open databases containing such data for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of fisheries management;

54. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to ensure that vessels flying their flag do not engage in trans-shipment of fish caught by fishing vessels engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

55. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt and implement internationally agreed market-related measures in accordance with international law, including principles, rights and obligations established in World Trade Organization agreements, as called for in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

V

Monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement

56. *Calls upon* States in accordance with international law to strengthen implementation of or, where they do not exist, adopt comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance measures and compliance and enforcement schemes individually and within those regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in which they participate in order to provide an appropriate framework for promoting compliance with agreed conservation and management measures, and further urges enhanced coordination among all relevant States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in these efforts;

57. *Encourages* further work by competent international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop guidelines on flag State control of fishing vessels;

58. *Urges* States, individually and through relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish mandatory vessel monitoring, control and surveillance systems, in particular to require that vessel monitoring systems be carried by all vessels fishing on the high seas as soon as practicable, and in the case of large-scale fishing vessels no later than December 2008, and share information on fisheries enforcement matters;

59. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to strengthen or establish, consistent with national and international law, positive or negative lists of vessels fishing within the areas covered by relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to verify compliance with conservation and management measures and identify products from illegal, unreported and unregulated catches, and encourages improved coordination among all parties and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in sharing and using this information, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

60. *Requests* States and relevant international bodies to develop, in accordance with international law, more effective measures to trace fish and fishery products to enable importing States to identify fish or fishery products caught in a manner that undermines international conservation and management measures agreed in accordance with international law, taking into account the special requirements of developing States and the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement, and at the same time to recognize the importance of market access, in accordance with provisions 11.2.4, 11.2.5 and 11.2.6 of the Code, for fish and fishery products caught in a manner that is in conformity with such international measures;

61. *Encourages* States to establish and undertake cooperative surveillance and enforcement activities in accordance with international law to strengthen and enhance efforts to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures, and prevent and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

62. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to develop and adopt effective measures to regulate trans-shipment, in particular at-sea trans-shipment, in order to, inter alia, monitor compliance, collect and verify fisheries data, and to prevent and suppress illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities in accordance with international law; and, in parallel, encourage and support the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in studying the current practices of trans-shipment as it relates to fishing operations for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and produce a set of guidelines for this purpose;

63. *Expresses its appreciation* for financial contributions from States to improve the capacity of the existing voluntary International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-Related Activities, and encourages States to join and actively participate in the Network and to consider supporting, when appropriate, its transformation in accordance with international law into an international unit with dedicated resources to further assist Network members, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

64. *Encourages* widespread participation in the Second Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop, to be held in Trondheim, Norway, from 7 to 11 August 2008, sponsored by Norway in conjunction with the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-Related

Activities and the FishCode programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in order to share experiences and technologies, foster coordination and improve skills among enforcement officials;

65. *Welcomes* the support of the Committee on Fisheries for the convening of an expert consultation to further develop the concept of a comprehensive global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels, supply vessels and beneficial ownership, as described in the feasibility study prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

66. *Requests* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to consider establishing a system of unique and permanent fishing and support vessel identification, to assist monitoring, control and surveillance and to complement the concept of a comprehensive global record of fishing vessels, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code, and to work with the International Maritime Organization in this regard, as recommended at the second session of the Joint Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters;

VI

Fishing overcapacity

67. *Calls upon* States to commit to urgently reducing the capacity of the world's fishing fleets to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, through the establishment of target levels and plans or other appropriate mechanisms for ongoing capacity assessment, while avoiding the transfer of fishing capacity to other fisheries or areas in a manner that undermines the sustainable management of fish stocks, including, inter alia, those areas where fish stocks are overexploited or in a depleted condition, and recognizing in this context the legitimate rights of developing States to develop their fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks consistent with article 25 of the Agreement, article 5 of the Code, and paragraph 10 of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity;

68. *Also calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to ensure that the urgent actions required in the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity are undertaken expeditiously and that implementation of the Plan of Action is facilitated without delay, as agreed to by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

69. *Requests* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to report on the state of progress in the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, as provided for in paragraph 48 of the Plan of Action;

70. *Encourages* those States which are cooperating to establish subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to exercise voluntary restraint of fishing effort levels in those areas that will come under the regulation of the future organizations and arrangements until adequate regional conservation and management measures are adopted and implemented, taking into account the need to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the relevant fish stocks;

71. *Urges* States to eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to fishing overcapacity, while completing the efforts undertaken at the World Trade Organization in accordance with the Doha Declaration[127] to clarify and improve its disciplines on fisheries subsidies, taking into account the importance of this sector, including small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture, to developing countries;

VII

Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing

72. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to continued compliance with resolution 46/215 and other subsequent resolutions on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, and urges States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to enforce fully the measures recommended in those resolutions in order to eliminate the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets;

VIII

Fisheries by-catch and discards

73. *Urges* States, regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations that have not done so to take action to reduce or eliminate by-catch, catch by lost or abandoned gear, fish discards and post-harvest losses, including juvenile fish, consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code, and in particular to consider measures including, as appropriate, technical measures related to fish size, mesh size or gear, discards, closed seasons and areas and zones reserved for selected fisheries, particularly artisanal fisheries, the establishment of mechanisms for communicating information on areas of high concentration of juvenile fish, taking into account the importance of ensuring confidentiality of such information, and support for studies and research that will reduce or eliminate by-catch of juvenile fish;

74. *Encourages* States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to give due consideration to participation, as appropriate, in

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[127] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(01)/DEC/1. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

regional and subregional instruments and organizations with mandates to conserve non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations;

75. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to urgently implement, as appropriate, the measures recommended in the Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations[128] and the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to prevent the decline of sea turtles and seabird populations by reducing by-catch and increasing post-release survival in their fisheries, including through research and development of gear and bait alternatives, promoting the use of available by-catch mitigation technology, and promotion and strengthening of data-collection programmes to obtain standardized information to develop reliable estimates of the by-catch of these species;

76. *Welcomes* the recommendation of the Committee on Fisheries at its twenty-seventh session that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should, in cooperation with relevant bodies, develop best practice guidelines to assist States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in implementing the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries and that the best practice guidelines should be extended to other relevant fishing gears;[121]

IX

Subregional and regional cooperation

77. *Urges* coastal States and States fishing on the high seas, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and other relevant instruments, to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to ensure the effective conservation and management of such stocks;

78. *Urges* States fishing for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks on the high seas, and relevant coastal States, where a subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement has the competence to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to give effect to their duty to cooperate by becoming members of such an organization or participants in such an arrangement, or by agreeing to apply the conservation and management measures established by such an organization or arrangement, or to otherwise ensure that no vessel flying their flag is authorized to access the fisheries resources to which regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements or conservation and management measures established by such organizations or arrangements apply;

79. *Invites*, in this regard, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that all States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participants in such arrangements, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Code;

80. *Encourages* relevant coastal States and States fishing on the high seas for a straddling fish stock or a highly migratory fish stock, where there is no subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to cooperate to establish such an organization or enter into another appropriate arrangement to ensure the conservation and management of such stocks, and to participate in the work of the organization or arrangement;

81. *Urges* all signatory States and other States whose vessels fish within the area of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean[129] for fishery resources covered by that Convention to become parties to that Convention as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to ensure that vessels flying their flags fully comply with the measures adopted;

82. *Encourages* signatory States and States having a real interest to become parties to the South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, and urges those States to agree on and implement interim measures, including measures in accordance with resolution 61/105, to ensure the conservation and management of the fisheries resources and their marine ecosystems and habitats in the area to which that Agreement applies until such time as that Agreement enters into force;

83. *Takes note* of recent efforts at the regional level to promote responsible fishing practices, including combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

84. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress of negotiations to establish regional and subregional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in several fisheries, in particular in the South Pacific and North-West Pacific, encourages States having a real interest to participate in such negotiations, urges participants to expedite those negotiations and to apply provisions of the Convention and the Agreement to their work, and also notes with satisfaction the adoption by the participants in the South Pacific and North-West Pacific negotiations of interim conservation and management measures in accordance with resolution 61/105, and encourages those participants to implement the voluntary interim measures adopted;

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[128] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Technical Consultation on Sea Turtles Conservation and Fisheries, Bangkok, 29 November–2 December 2004*, FAO Fisheries Report No. 765 (FIRM/R765 (En)), appendix E.

[129] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39489.

85. *Urges* further efforts by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as a matter of priority, in accordance with international law, to strengthen and modernize their mandates and the measures adopted by such organizations or arrangements, to implement modern approaches to fisheries management as reflected in the Agreement and other relevant international instruments relying on the best scientific information available and application of the precautionary approach, and incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and biodiversity considerations, where these aspects are lacking, to ensure that they effectively contribute to long-term conservation and management and sustainable use of marine living resources, and in this regard welcomes the adoption of amendments to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries[130] at the Twenty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, held in Lisbon from 24 to 28 September 2007;

86. *Welcomes* the initiative taken by the members of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission to strengthen the functioning of the Commission so that it can more effectively discharge its mandate, and requests the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue to provide members of the Commission with the necessary assistance to this end;

87. *Urges* States to strengthen and enhance cooperation among existing and developing regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate, including increased communication and further coordination of measures, such as through the holding of joint consultations;

88. *Welcomes* the joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, hosted by the Government of Japan in Kobe, from 22 to 26 January 2007, including the adoption at that meeting of the agreed Course of Actions, and the subsequent meeting of the Joint Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organization and Arrangement Technical Working Group on Trade and Catch Documentation Schemes, held in Raleigh, North Carolina, United States of America, on 22 and 23 July 2007;

89. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to improve transparency and to ensure that their decision-making processes are fair and transparent, rely on best scientific information available, incorporate the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, address participatory rights, including through, inter alia, the development of transparent criteria for allocating fishing opportunities which reflects, where appropriate, the relevant provisions of the Agreement, taking due account, inter alia, of the status of the relevant stocks and the respective interests in the fishery, and strengthen integration, coordination and cooperation with other relevant fisheries organizations, regional seas arrangements and other relevant international organizations;

90. *Welcomes* the progress made by some regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to initiate performance reviews, and the completion by the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission of a performance review, and urges States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have not done so, to undertake, on an urgent basis, performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, initiated either by the organization or arrangement itself or with external partners, including in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, using transparent criteria based on the provisions of the Agreement and other relevant instruments, and taking into account the best practices of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and, as appropriate, any set of criteria developed by States or other regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, and encourages that such performance reviews include some element of independent evaluation and propose means for improving the functioning of the regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, as appropriate, and that the results be made publicly available;

91. *Urges* States to cooperate to develop best practice guidelines for regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to apply, to the extent possible, those guidelines to organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

92. *Encourages* the development of regional guidelines for States to use in establishing sanctions, for non-compliance by vessels flying their flag and by their nationals, to be applied in accordance with national law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits deriving from their illegal activities, as well as in evaluating their systems of sanctions to ensure that they are effective in securing compliance and deterring violations;

X

Responsible fisheries in the marine ecosystem

93. *Encourages* States to apply by 2010 the ecosystem approach, notes the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem[131] and decision VII/11[132] and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, notes the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to guidelines for the implementation of the ecosystem approach to

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[130] Ibid., vol. 1135, No. 17799.

[131] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/3, annex.

[132] See UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex.

fisheries management, and also notes the importance to this approach of relevant provisions of the Agreement and the Code;

94. *Also encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations, to work to ensure that fisheries and other ecosystem data collection is performed in a coordinated and integrated manner, facilitating incorporation into global observation initiatives, where appropriate;

95. *Further encourages* States to increase scientific research in accordance with international law on the marine ecosystem;

96. *Calls upon* States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies of the United Nations, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, where appropriate, and other appropriate intergovernmental bodies, to cooperate in achieving sustainable aquaculture, including through information exchange, developing equivalent standards on such issues as aquatic animal health and human health and safety concerns, assessing the potential positive and negative impacts of aquaculture, including socio-economics, on the marine and coastal environment, including biodiversity, and adopting relevant methods and techniques to minimize and mitigate adverse effects;

97. *Calls upon* States to take action immediately, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and consistent with the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, to sustainably manage fish stocks and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals, from destructive fishing practices, recognizing the immense importance and value of deep sea ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain;

98. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to paragraphs 83 to 91 of resolution 61/105 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the urgent actions called for in that resolution;

99. *Welcomes* the progress in regulating bottom fisheries in accordance with resolution 61/105 by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, the South-East Atlantic Fisheries Organization and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean;

100. *Commends* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for its decision to develop international guidelines for the management of deep-sea fisheries in the high seas, as requested in paragraph 89 of resolution 61/105, to further develop standards and criteria for use by States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in identifying vulnerable marine ecosystems in areas beyond national jurisdiction and the impacts of fishing on such ecosystems, and establishing standards for the management of deep-sea fisheries in order to facilitate the adoption and the implementation of conservation and management measures pursuant to paragraphs 83 and 86 of resolution 61/105, notes the Expert Consultation held from 11 to 14 September 2007 in Bangkok, and encourages all relevant States to participate in the intergovernmental Technical Consultation to be held in Rome from 4 to 8 February 2008;

101. *Commends* the Committee on Fisheries for its decision at its twenty-seventh session that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations should create a list of authorized vessels engaged in high seas deep-sea fisheries and create a global database on vulnerable marine ecosystems in areas beyond national jurisdiction, in cooperation with States and other relevant organizations,[121] as requested in paragraphs 87 and 90 of resolution 61/105;

102. *Encourages* accelerated progress to establish criteria on the objectives and management of marine protected areas for fisheries purposes, and in this regard welcomes the proposed work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop technical guidelines in accordance with the Convention and the Code on the design, implementation and testing of marine protected areas for such purposes, and urges coordination and cooperation among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

103. *Urges* all States to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities[133] and to accelerate activity to safeguard the marine ecosystem, including fish stocks, against pollution and physical degradation;

104. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to paragraphs 77 to 81 of resolution 60/31 concerning the issue of lost, abandoned or discarded fishing gear and related marine debris and the adverse impacts such debris and derelict fishing gear have on, inter alia, fish stocks, habitats and other marine species, and urges accelerated progress by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in implementing those paragraphs of the resolution;

105. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Committee on Fisheries considered at its twenty-seventh session the issue of derelict fishing gear, agreed that it is particularly relevant to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and requested that the Organization consult with the International Maritime Organization in its efforts related to marine debris;[121]

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[133] A/51/116, annex II.

XI

Capacity-building

106. *Reiterates* the crucial importance of cooperation by States directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant regional and subregional organizations, and by other international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through its FishCode programme, including through financial and/or technical assistance, in accordance with the Agreement, the Compliance Agreement, the Code, the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries, and the Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to increase the capacity of developing States to achieve the goals and implement the actions called for in the present resolution;

107. *Welcomes* the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in developing guidance on the strategies and measures required for the creation of an enabling environment for small-scale fisheries, including the development of a code of conduct and guidelines for enhancing the contribution of small-scale fisheries to poverty alleviation and food security that include adequate provisions with regard to financial measures and capacity-building, including transfer of technology, and encourages studies for creating possible alternative livelihoods for coastal communities;

108. *Encourages* increased capacity-building and technical assistance by States, international financial institutions and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies for fishers, in particular small-scale fishers, in developing countries, and in particular small island developing States, consistent with environmental sustainability;

109. *Encourages* the international community to enhance the opportunities for sustainable development in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and coastal African States, by encouraging greater participation of those States in authorized fisheries activities being undertaken within areas under their national jurisdiction, in accordance with the Convention, by distant-water fishing nations in order to achieve better economic returns for developing countries from their fisheries resources within areas under their national jurisdiction and an enhanced role in regional fisheries management, as well as by enhancing the ability of developing countries to develop their own fisheries, as well as to participate in high seas fisheries, including access to such fisheries, in conformity with international law, in particular the Convention and the Agreement, and taking into account article 5 of the Code;

110. *Requests* distant-water fishing nations, when negotiating access agreements and arrangements with developing coastal States, to do so on an equitable and sustainable basis, including by giving greater attention to fish processing, including fish processing facilities, within the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State to assist the realization of the benefits from the development of fisheries resources, and also including, inter alia, the transfer of technology and assistance for monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement within areas under the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State providing fisheries access, taking into account the forms of cooperation set out in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

111. *Encourages* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide greater assistance and to promote coherence in such assistance for developing States in designing, establishing and implementing relevant agreements, instruments and tools for the conservation and sustainable management of fish stocks, including in designing and strengthening their domestic regulatory fisheries policies and those of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in their regions, and the enhancement of research and scientific capabilities through existing funds, such as the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement, bilateral assistance, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements assistance funds, the FishCode programme, the World Bank's global programme on fisheries and the Global Environment Facility;

112. *Calls upon* States to promote, through continuing dialogue and the assistance and cooperation provided in accordance with articles 24 to 26 of the Agreement, further ratification of or accession to the Agreement by seeking to address, inter alia, the issue of lack of capacity and resources that might stand in the way of developing States becoming parties;

113. *Encourages* States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant bodies to assist developing States in the implementation of the actions called for in paragraphs 83 to 91 of resolution 61/105;

XII

Cooperation within the United Nations system

114. *Requests* the relevant parts of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and donor agencies to support increased enforcement and compliance capabilities for regional fisheries management organizations and their member States;

115. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies on the implementation of the international plans of action and to report to the Secretary-

General, for inclusion in his annual report on sustainable fisheries, on priorities for cooperation and coordination in this work;

116. *Invites* the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system to consult and cooperate in the preparation of questionnaires designed to collect information on sustainable fisheries, in order to avoid duplication;

XIII

Sixty-third session of the General Assembly

117. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, and to invite them to provide the Secretary-General with information relevant to the implementation of the present resolution;

118. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments", taking into account information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, as well as other relevant intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, and consisting, inter alia, of elements provided in relevant paragraphs in the present resolution;

119. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments".

RESOLUTION 62/178

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.40, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

62/178. Organization of the 2008 comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[134] in which it decided, inter alia, to devote sufficient time and at least one full day of the annual session of the General Assembly to reviewing and debating a report of the Secretary-General,

Reaffirming also its commitment to the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS,[135] in which it decided, inter alia, to undertake comprehensive reviews in 2008 and 2011, within the annual reviews of the General Assembly, of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment and the Political Declaration,

Recalling the HIV/AIDS-related goals and commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[136] and in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[137]

Reaffirming the importance of the follow-up process prescribed in the Declaration of Commitment, including national periodic reviews, and noting in this regard the next round of national progress reports, due on 31 January 2008,

1. *Decides* to convene a high-level meeting on 10 and 11 June 2008, which will undertake a comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[134] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS,[135] as well as promote continued engagement of leaders in a comprehensive global response to AIDS;

2. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting should be as follows:

(*a*) The high-level meeting will comprise plenary meetings, five thematic panel discussions and an informal interactive hearing with civil society;

(*b*) The opening plenary meeting will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, a person openly living with HIV and an eminent person actively engaged in the response to AIDS;

(*c*) An informal interactive civil society hearing will be chaired by the President of the General Assembly or his representative and organized with the active participation of people living with HIV and broader civil society, and will be attended by representatives of Member States, the Observer State and observers, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations and the private sector;

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[134] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[135] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[136] See resolution 55/2.

[137] See resolution 60/1.

(*d*) The chairpersons of the panel discussions will present summaries of the discussions to the President of the General Assembly;

3. *Encourages* Member States to include in their national delegations to the high-level meeting parliamentarians, representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and organizations and networks representing people living with HIV, women, young persons, orphans, community organizations, faith-based organizations and the private sector;

4. *Decides* that the Holy See, in its capacity as Observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, shall participate in the high-level meeting;

5. *Invites* the United Nations system, including programmes, funds, specialized agencies and regional commissions, as well as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Special Envoys of the Secretary-General on HIV/AIDS and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to Stop Tuberculosis, to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate;

6. *Invites* intergovernmental organizations and entities that have observer status with the General Assembly, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and non-governmental members of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint Programme to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate;

7. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, with support from the Joint Programme and in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting, including the identification of a person openly living with HIV and an eminent person actively engaged in the response to AIDS to speak at the opening plenary meeting, the identification of themes and finalization of the panel discussions, and the format of the informal interactive hearing with civil society;

8. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly, following appropriate consultations with Member States, to draw up, no later than 31 March 2008, a list of other relevant civil society representatives, in particular associations of people living with HIV, non-governmental organizations, including organizations of women and young people, girls and boys and men, faith-based organizations and the private sector, especially pharmaceutical companies and representatives of labour, including on the basis of the recommendations of the Joint Programme and taking into account the principle of equitable geographical representation, and to submit the list to Member States for consideration on a no-objection basis for a final decision by the Assembly on participation in the high-level meeting, including panel discussions;

9. *Decides* that the arrangements outlined in paragraph 8 above shall not be considered a precedent for other similar events;

10. *Encourages* the timely submission of national reports by all Member States on their implementation of the Declaration of Commitment and the Political Declaration, noting the request for those submissions by 31 January 2008 as inputs to the report of the Secretary-General;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive and analytical report at least six weeks prior to its consideration by the General Assembly on progress achieved and challenges remaining in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment and the Political Declaration;

12. *Decides* that the President of the General Assembly will circulate a comprehensive summary after the conclusion of the high-level meeting, reflecting the views expressed during the discussions on the progress made, challenges remaining and sustainable ways to overcome them.

RESOLUTION 62/179

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.10/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Portugal, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/179. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002 on the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling also its resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and resolutions 58/233 of 23 December 2003, 59/254 of 23 December 2004, 60/222 of 23 December 2005 and 61/229 of 22 December 2006 entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support", *Recalling further* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[138] including the recognition of the need to meet the special needs of Africa, and recalling also its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and also the need for their development efforts to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[139]

Emphasizing that a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development is important for progress in the implementation of the New Partnership,[140]

Stressing the need to implement all commitments by the international community regarding the economic and social development of Africa,

1. *Welcomes* the fifth consolidated report of the Secretary-General;[141]

2. *Reaffirms its full support* for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[140]

3. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the New Partnership as well as regional and international support for the New Partnership, while acknowledging that much needs to be done in its implementation;

4. *Reaffirms* the resolve to provide assistance for prevention and care, with the aim of ensuring an HIV/AIDS-, malaria- and tuberculosis-free Africa, by addressing the needs of all, in particular the needs of women, children and young people, and achieving as closely as possible the goal of universal access by 2010 to comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, treatment, care and support in African countries, to accelerate and intensify efforts to expand access to affordable and quality medicines in Africa, including antiretroviral drugs, inter alia, by encouraging pharmaceutical companies to make drugs available, and to ensure increased bilateral and multilateral assistance, where possible on a grant basis, to combat malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa through the strengthening of health systems;

5. *Reaffirms its full support* for the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted at the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on 27 June 2001,[142] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS, adopted by the Assembly on 2 June 2006;[143]

I

Actions by African countries and organizations

6. *Welcomes* the progress made by the African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to continue their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance, creating an environment conducive to involving the private sector, including small and medium-size firms, in the New Partnership implementation process and to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

7. *Also welcomes* the commendable progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the completion of the peer review process in a number of countries, further welcomes the progress in implementing the national programmes of action resulting from these reviews, and in this regard urges African States that have not done so to consider joining the Mechanism process as soon as possible and to strengthen the Mechanism process for its efficient performance;

8. *Welcomes and appreciates* the continuing and increasing efforts of African countries to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;

9. *Stresses* that conflict prevention, management and resolution and post-conflict consolidation are essential for the achievement of the objectives of the New Partnership, and welcomes in this regard the cooperation and support granted by the United Nations and development partners to the African regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of the New Partnership;

10. *Recognizes* the need for African countries to continue to coordinate, in accordance with their respective national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance in order to integrate effectively such assistance into their development processes;

11. *Encourages* African countries to accelerate the achievement of the objective of food security in Africa, and in this regard reaffirms its support for the outcome of the post-Abuja meeting of the International Technical Committee of the Food Security Summit, held in Addis Ababa in May 2007;

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[138] Ibid.

[139] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[140] A/57/304, annex.

[141] A/62/203.

[142] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[143] Resolution 60/262, annex.

12. *Recognizes* the important role that African regional economic communities can play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encourages African countries and the international community to give regional economic communities the necessary support to strengthen their capacity;

13. *Supports* the ongoing efforts by the African Union to improve the coordination between the New Partnership secretariat, the African Union Commission, the regional economic communities and African States;

14. *Encourages* the establishment of national institutional mechanisms for further domestication and integration of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership in national policies and programmes;

15. *Encourages* African countries to further enhance public awareness of and commitment to the New Partnership and its programmes through, inter alia, effective and comprehensive communication and outreach strategies;

II

Response of the international community

16. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership;

17. *Also welcomes* the various important initiatives of Africa's development partners in recent years, such as, inter alia, the Africa Partnership Forum, the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership, China-Africa Partnership, the European Union-Africa Strategic Partnership, the Group of Eight, the Millennium Challenge Account, the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief of the President of the United States of America and the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD), and emphasizes in this regard the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa and the need for their effective implementation;

18. *Recognizes* the important role that South-South cooperation can play in supporting Africa's development efforts, including implementation of the New Partnership;

19. *Urges* continued support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment, and transfer of technology;

20. *Reiterates* the need for all countries and relevant multilateral institutions to continue efforts to enhance coherence in their trade policies towards African countries, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to fully integrate African countries into the international trading system through initiatives such as building Africa's capacity to compete and the provision of assistance to address the adjustment challenges of trade liberalization;

21. *Calls for* a comprehensive and sustainable solution to the external debt problems of African countries, including cancellation or restructuring, as appropriate, and on a case-by-case basis, for heavily indebted African countries not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative that have unsustainable debt burdens, and emphasizes the importance of debt sustainability;

22. *Also calls for* the fulfilment of pledges by the Group of Eight countries to double by 2010 official development assistance to Africa, and in this regard calls upon the international community, particularly the Group of Eight, to honour their commitments and to ensure that the increase in official development assistance translates into the actual flow of financial resources to developing countries;

23. *Acknowledges* efforts by developed countries to increase resources for development, including commitments by some developed countries to increase official development assistance, notes with concern the overall decline in official development assistance in 2006, and calls for the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 and to reach the level of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance by 2010, as well as the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for least developed countries, and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

24. *Welcomes* the efforts of some developed countries, which are on target to meet the commitments made in terms of increased official development assistance;

25. *Also welcomes* recent efforts and initiatives to enhance the quality of aid and to increase its impact, including the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and the resolve to take concrete, effective and timely action in implementing all agreed commitments on aid effectiveness, with clear monitoring and deadlines, including by further aligning assistance with countries' strategies, building institutional capacities, reducing transaction costs and eliminating bureaucratic procedures, making progress on untying aid, enhancing the absorptive capacity and financial management of recipient countries and strengthening the focus on development results;

26. *Recognizes* the need for the international community to make continued efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries;

27. *Invites* developed countries to promote investment by their private sectors in Africa, to help African countries

attract investments and promote policies conducive to attracting domestic and foreign investment, such as encouraging private financial flows and promoting and maintaining macroeconomic stability, to encourage and facilitate the transfer of the technology needed to African countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, and to assist in strengthening human and institutional capacities for the implementation of the New Partnership, consistent with its priorities and objectives and with a view to furthering Africa's development at all levels;

28. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the African Union and the New Partnership secretariat and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership and to place greater emphasis on monitoring, evaluation and dissemination of the effectiveness of its activities in support of the New Partnership;

29. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the United Nations development system to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives through, inter alia, the Millennium Villages Project, and also requests the Secretary-General to include in his report an assessment of those quick-impact initiatives;

30. *Reaffirms* its decision to hold within existing resources a high-level meeting on "Africa's development needs: state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward" during its sixty-third session;

31. *Stresses* the need for close consultation between the United Nations and the African Union in preparing for the high-level meeting;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters;

33. *Reiterates* the call upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take measures to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa in order to enable it to effectively fulfil its mandate, including monitoring and reporting on progress related to meeting the special needs of Africa;

35. *Takes note* of the fact that the post of the Special Adviser on Africa is vacant, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to address this issue as soon as possible;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the basis of inputs from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other stakeholders in the New Partnership.

RESOLUTION 62/180

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.39 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Botswana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Canada, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Myanmar, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand

62/180. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the period 2001–2010 has been proclaimed the Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa, by the General Assembly,[144] and that combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases is included in the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[145]

Recalling also its resolution 61/228 of 22 December 2006 and all previous resolutions concerning the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relating to the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular resolution 1998/36 of 30 July 1998,

Taking note of the declarations and decisions on health issues adopted by the Organization of African Unity, in particular the declaration and plan of action on the "Roll Back Malaria" initiative adopted at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Abuja on 24 and 25 April 2000,[146] as well as decision AHG/Dec.155 (XXXVI) concerning the implementation of that declaration and plan of action, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-sixth ordinary session, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000,[147]

Also taking note of the Maputo Declaration on Malaria, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases, adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its second ordinary session, held in Maputo from 10 to 12 July 2003,[148] and the Abuja call for accelerated action towards universal access to HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria services in Africa, issued by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union at the special summit of the African Union on HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja, from 2 to 4 May 2006,

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[144] See resolution 55/284.

[145] See resolution 55/2.

[146] See A/55/240/Add.1.

[147] See A/55/286, annex II.

[148] A/58/626, annex I, Assembly/AU/Decl.6 (II).

Recognizing the linkages in efforts being made to reach the targets set at the Abuja Summit in 2000 as necessary and important for the attainment of the "Roll Back Malaria" goal and the targets of the Millennium Declaration by 2010 and 2015, respectively,

Also recognizing that malaria-related ill health and deaths throughout the world can be substantially eliminated with political commitment and commensurate resources if the public is educated and sensitized about malaria and appropriate health services are made available, particularly in countries where the disease is endemic,

Emphasizing the importance of implementing the Millennium Declaration, and welcoming in this connection the commitment of Member States to respond to the specific needs of Africa,

Commending the efforts of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other partners to fight malaria over the years, including the launching of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership in 1998,

Recalling resolution 60.18, adopted by the World Health Assembly on 23 May 2007,[149] urging a broad range of national and international actions to scale up malaria control programmes,

Taking note of the Roll Back Malaria Global Strategic Plan 2005–2015 developed by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Health Organization,[150] and calls for support for the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Welcomes* the decision by the World Health Assembly to commemorate Malaria Day annually on 25 April, or on any such day or days as individual Member States may decide, in order to provide education and understanding of malaria as a global scourge that is preventable and a disease that is curable;[149]

3. *Also welcomes* the increased funding for malaria interventions and for research and development of preventive and control tools from the international community, through funding from multilateral and bilateral sources and from the private sector, as well as by making predictable financing available through appropriate and effective aid modalities and in-country health financing mechanisms aligned with national priorities, which are key to strengthening health systems and promoting universal and equitable access to high-quality malaria prevention and treatment services;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the "Roll Back Malaria" partner organizations, including the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the United Nations Children's Fund, as vital complementary sources of support for the efforts of malaria-endemic countries to combat the disease;

5. *Appeals* to the international community to work in a spirit of cooperation towards effective, increased, harmonized and sustained bilateral and multilateral assistance to combat malaria, including support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, in order to assist States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, to implement sound national plans, in particular health plans and sanitation plans, including malaria control strategies and integrated management of childhood illnesses, in a sustained and equitable way that, inter alia, contributes to health system development;

6. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of additional and predictable resources for development by voluntary innovative financing initiatives taken by groups of Member States, and in this regard notes the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the advance market commitment initiatives;

7. *Urges* malaria-endemic countries to work towards financial sustainability, to increase, to the extent possible, domestic resource allocation to malaria control and to create favourable conditions for working with the private sector in order to improve access to good-quality malaria services;

8. *Calls upon* Member States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, to establish and/or strengthen national policies and operational plans, aspiring to ensure that at least 80 per cent of those at risk of or suffering from malaria may benefit from major preventive and curative interventions by 2010, in accordance with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization, so as to ensure a reduction in the burden of malaria by at least 50 per cent by 2010 and 75 per cent by 2015;

9. *Urges* Member States to assess and respond to the needs for integrated human resources at all levels of the health system, in order to achieve the targets of the Abuja Declaration on Roll Back Malaria in Africa[151] and the internationally agreed development goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[145] to take actions, as appropriate, to effectively govern the recruitment, training and retention of skilled health personnel, and to give particular focus to the availability of

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[149] See World Health Organization, *Sixtieth World Health Assembly, Geneva, 14–23 May 2007, Resolutions and Decisions, Annex* (WHA60/2007/REC/1).

[150] A/62/321.

[151] A/55/240/Add.1, annex.

skilled personnel at all levels to meet technical and operational needs as increased funding for malaria control programmes becomes available;

10. *Calls upon* the international community, inter alia, by helping to meet the financial needs of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and through country-led initiatives with adequate international support, to intensify access to affordable, safe and effective antimalarial combination treatments, intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancies, long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets, including through the free distribution of such nets where appropriate, and insecticides for indoor residual spraying for malaria control, taking into account relevant international rules, standards and guidelines;

11. *Requests* relevant international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to assist efforts of national Governments to establish universal protection of young children and pregnant women in malaria-endemic countries, particularly in Africa, with long-lasting insecticide-treated nets as rapidly as possible, with due regard to ensuring sustainability through full community participation and implementation through the health system;

12. *Encourages* all African countries that have not yet done so to implement the recommendations of the Abuja Summit in 2000[146] to reduce or waive taxes and tariffs for nets and other products needed for malaria control, both to reduce the price of the products to consumers and to stimulate free trade in those products;

13. *Expresses its concern* about the increase in resistant strains of malaria in several regions of the world, and calls upon Member States, with support from the World Health Organization, to strengthen surveillance systems for drug and insecticide resistance and for the World Health Organization to coordinate a global network for the monitoring of drug and insecticide resistance;

14. *Urges* all Member States experiencing resistance to conventional monotherapies to replace them with combination therapies, as recommended by the World Health Organization, and to develop the necessary financial, legislative and regulatory mechanisms in order to introduce artemisinin combination therapies at affordable prices and to prohibit the marketing of oral artemisinin monotherapies, in a timely manner;

15. *Recognizes* the importance of the development of safe and cost-effective vaccines and new medicines to prevent and treat malaria and the need for further and accelerated research, including into safe, effective and high-quality traditional therapies, using rigorous standards, including by providing support to the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases[152] and through effective global partnerships, such as the various malaria vaccine initiatives and the Medicines for Malaria Venture, where necessary stimulated by new incentives to secure their development and through effective and timely support towards pre-qualification of new antimalarials and their combinations;

16. *Calls upon* the international community, including through existing partnerships, to increase investment in and efforts towards the research and development of new, safe and affordable malaria-related medicines, products and technologies, such as vaccines, rapid diagnostic tests, insecticides and delivery modes, to prevent and treat malaria, especially for at-risk children and pregnant women, in order to enhance effectiveness and delay the onset of resistance;

17. *Reaffirms* the right to use, to the fullest extent, the provisions contained in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement),[153] the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health,[154] the decision of the World Trade Organization's General Council of 30 August 2003[155] and amendments to article 31 of the Agreement,[156] which provide flexibilities for the protection of public health, and in particular to promote access to medicines for all, including the production, under compulsory licensing, of generic drugs in the prevention and treatment of malaria;

18. *Resolves* to assist developing countries to employ the flexibilities outlined in the TRIPS Agreement in the fight against malaria and to strengthen their capacities for this purpose;

19. *Calls upon* the international community to support ways to expand access to and the affordability of key products, such as vector control measures, including indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and artemisinin-based combination therapy for populations at risk of exposure to resistant strains of falciparum malaria in malaria-endemic countries, particularly in Africa, including through additional funds and innovative mechanisms, inter alia, for the financing and scaling up of artemisinin production and procurement, as appropriate, to meet the increased need;

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[152] A joint programme of the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization.

[153] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[154] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(01)/DEC/2. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[155] See World Trade Organization, document WT/L/540 and Corr.1. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[156] See World Trade Organization, document WT/L/641. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

20. *Welcomes* the increased level of public-private partnerships for malaria control and prevention, including the financial and in kind contributions of private sector partners and companies operating in Africa, as well as the increased engagement of non-governmental service providers;

21. *Encourages* the producers of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets to accelerate technology transfer to developing countries, and the World Bank and regional development funds to consider supporting malaria-endemic countries to establish factories to scale up production of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets;

22. *Calls upon* the international community and malaria-endemic countries, in accordance with existing guidelines and recommendations from the World Health Organization and the requirements of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants[157] to increase capacity for the safe, effective and judicious use of indoor residual spraying and other forms of vector control;

23. *Urges* the international community to become fully knowledgeable about World Health Organization technical policies and strategies and the provisions in the Stockholm Convention related to the use of DDT, including for indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and case management, intermittent preventive treatment for pregnant women and monitoring of in vivo resistance studies to artemisinin-based combination therapy treatment, so that projects support those policies, strategies and provisions;

24. *Requests* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and donor agencies to provide support to those countries which choose to use DDT for indoor residual spraying so as to ensure that it is implemented in accordance with international rules, standards and guidelines, and to provide all possible support to malaria-endemic countries to manage the intervention effectively and prevent the contamination, in particular, of agricultural products with DDT and other insecticides used for indoor residual spraying;

25. *Encourages* the World Health Organization and its member States, with the support of the parties to the Stockholm Convention, to continue to explore possible alternatives to DDT as a vector control agent;

26. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries to encourage regional and intersectoral collaboration, both public and private, at all levels, especially in education, health, agriculture, economic development and the environment, to advance malaria control objectives;

27. *Calls upon* the international community to support increased interventions, in line with the recommendations of the World Health Organization and the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, in order to ensure their rapid, efficient and effective implementation, to strengthen health systems and national pharmaceutical policies, to monitor and fight against the trade in counterfeit antimalarial medicines and prevent the distribution and use of them, and to support coordinated efforts, inter alia, by providing technical assistance to improve surveillance, monitoring and evaluation systems and their alignment with national plans and systems so as to better track and report changes in coverage, the need for scaling up recommended interventions and the subsequent reductions in the burden of malaria;

28. *Urges* Member States, the international community and all relevant actors, including the private sector, to promote the coordinated implementation and enhance the quality of malaria-related activities, including via the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, in accordance with national policies and operational plans that are consistent with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization and recent efforts and initiatives, including the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution under the agenda item entitled "2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa".

RESOLUTION 62/212

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Credentials Committee (A/62/596)

62/212. Report of the Credentials Committee

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee[158] and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

RESOLUTION 62/213

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.35/Rev.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar,

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[157] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2256, No. 40214.

[158] A/62/596.

Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

62/213. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/48 of 29 November 2000 and 57/12 of 14 November 2002 on the role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order,

Acknowledging that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being and that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming that development is a central goal by itself and that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of United Nations activities,

Recognizing that the well-being of people and the full development of their potential is pivotal to sustainable development, and convinced of the urgency of international cooperation towards that end,

Deeply concerned about the disparities between rich and poor, both within and among countries, and about the adverse implications of these disparities for the promotion of human development throughout the world,

Encouraged by reductions in poverty in some countries in the recent past, and determined to reinforce and extend this trend to benefit people worldwide,

Recognizing the action already under way by all Member States, the United Nations system and other international, regional and national forums and organizations and the progress made to implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing also that the achievement of many of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in many countries is currently off track, and emphasizing that vigorous implementation of all development commitments will be needed without delay if the Goals are to be achieved,

1. *Stresses* the need for a broad-based consensus for action within a comprehensive and holistic framework towards the achievement of the goals of development and poverty eradication involving all actors, namely Governments, the United Nations system and other international organizations and relevant actors of civil society, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations;

2. *Notes with interest* the proposal regarding a new global human order;

3. *Recognizes* that the increased pace of globalization and growing interdependence have heightened the importance of international cooperation and multilateralism in meeting global challenges and solving common problems, including those that have arisen from the uneven impact of globalization on development and human well-being;

4. *Underlines* the need to foster national and international conditions conducive to the promotion of human well-being and the full realization of human potential, and in this regard urges countries to develop and adopt national strategies to achieve their national development priorities as well as the internationally agreed goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Reaffirms* the commitment to sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law, to mobilizing domestic resources, attracting international flows, assuring long-term investment in human capital and infrastructure, promoting international trade as an engine for economic growth and development and increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development, sustainable debt financing and external debt relief and to enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems;

6. *Recognizes* that inequality within and among countries is a concern for all countries regardless of their level of development and that it represents a growing challenge with multiple implications for the realization of economic and social potential and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report an assessment of the implications of inequality for development;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order".

RESOLUTION 62/214

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2007, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (A/62/595)

62/214. United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable for a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Deeply concerned by and strongly condemning all acts of sexual exploitation and abuse committed by United Nations staff and related personnel,

Reiterating its support to the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse, and recalling all relevant United Nations standards of conduct and regulations, including the Secretary-General's bulletin on the special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse,[159]

Also reiterating its support for the implementation of a comprehensive approach throughout the United Nations system to assistance to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel, which should be provided in an appropriate and reliable manner,

Recalling the letter dated 24 March 2005 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly, which contains the report of the special adviser entitled "A comprehensive strategy to eliminate future sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations",[160]

Recalling also that, in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[161] the Secretary-General was requested to submit proposals to the General Assembly leading to a comprehensive approach to victims' assistance,

Recalling further its resolutions 59/281 of 29 March 2005, 59/300 of 22 June 2005, 60/263 of 6 June 2006 and 61/291 of 24 July 2007,

Taking note with appreciation of the letter dated 25 May 2006 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly,[162] which contains a draft United Nations policy statement and a draft United Nations comprehensive strategy on assistance and support to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel,

Mindful of the importance of assisting victims of sexual exploitation and abuse committed by United Nations staff and related personnel,

1. *Adopts* the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel ("the Strategy"), annexed to the present resolution;

2. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and invites specialized agencies, to engage in an active and coordinated manner in the implementation of the Strategy, with the support of civil society, as appropriate, working closely with Member States;

3. *Decides* to examine, in two years, progress made in the implementation of the Strategy under the agenda item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit";

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the Strategy and to submit a detailed report in this regard to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, including lessons learned, best practices and recommendations.

Annex

United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel

Purpose

1. The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel receive appropriate assistance and support in a timely manner. It is imperative that the Organization respond quickly and effectively when sexual exploitation and abuse occur.

2. The Strategy also enables the United Nations system to facilitate, coordinate and provide, as appropriate, assistance and support to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel.

3. The Strategy shall in no way diminish or replace the individual responsibility for acts of sexual exploitation and abuse, which rests with the perpetrators. The Strategy is not intended as means for compensation.

Scope of application

4. The Strategy should be implemented to assist and support complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel in a manner appropriate to the relevant circumstances of each location with due respect to host country legislation.

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[159] ST/SGB/2003/13.

[160] A/59/710.

[161] See resolution 60/1, para. 165.

[162] A/60/877.

Definitions

5. The following definitions are provided here to clarify the terms used in the Strategy:

(*a*) Sexual abuse: The actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions;

(*b*) Sexual exploitation: The actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power or trust for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another;

(*c*) Complainants: Persons who allege, in accordance with established procedures, that they have been, or are alleged to have been, sexually exploited or abused by United Nations staff or related personnel, but whose claim has not yet been established through a United Nations administrative process or Member States' processes, as appropriate;

(*d*) Victims: Persons whose claims that they have been sexually exploited or abused by United Nations staff or related personnel have been established through a United Nations administrative process or Member States' processes, as appropriate;

(*e*) Children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse: Children who are found by a competent national authority to have been born as a result of acts of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff or related personnel;

(*f*) United Nations staff and related personnel: United Nations staff members, consultants, individual contractors, United Nations Volunteers, experts on mission and contingent members;

(*g*) Implementing partners: Entities or organizations that operate at country level, in accordance with established host country and United Nations procedures, to facilitate and provide the services outlined in the Strategy. Victim Support Facilitators are those selected implementing partners requested by the United Nations to facilitate the delivery of assistance and support to complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Assistance and support

6. Complainants should receive basic assistance and support in accordance with their individual needs directly arising from the alleged sexual exploitation and abuse. This assistance and support will comprise medical care, legal services, support to deal with the psychological and social effects of the experience and immediate material care, such as food, clothing, emergency and safe shelter, as necessary.

7. Further to basic assistance, victims should receive additional assistance and support in accordance with their individual needs directly arising from sexual exploitation and abuse. This assistance and support will comprise medical care, legal services, support to deal with the psychological and social effects of the experience and immediate material care, as necessary.

8. Children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse should receive, in accordance with their individual needs, assistance and support addressing the medical, legal, psychological and social consequences directly arising from sexual exploitation and abuse, in the best interests of the child. The United Nations should also work with Member States to facilitate, within their competence, the pursuit of claims related to paternity and child support.

Provision of assistance and support

9. All assistance and support should be provided in a manner that does not increase the trauma suffered by the complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse, cause further stigmatization or exclude or discriminate against other victims of sexual exploitation and abuse.

10. Assistance and support should be provided through existing services, programmes and their networks. However, where necessary, the United Nations should consider supporting the development of new services, while not developing duplicative structures.

11. A United Nations focal point will be identified to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Strategy to ensure that the process of referring complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse is simple, safe and respects the need for confidentiality, dignity and non-discrimination.

12. The United Nations should identify implementing partners to provide the services outlined in the present Strategy, and to act as Victim Support Facilitators, as necessary.

13. The duration of the provision of assistance and support should be set in accordance with individual needs directly arising from sexual exploitation and abuse.

14. The provision of any assistance and support by the United Nations in every case of complainants, victims and children born as a result of sexual exploitation and abuse is not an acknowledgement of the validity of the claims or an indication of acceptance of responsibility by the alleged perpetrator.

RESOLUTION 62/215

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, by a recorded vote of 146 to 2, with 3 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/62/L.27 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Austria, Belize, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Philippines, Portugal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Benin, Turkey

Abstaining: Colombia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

62/215. Oceans and the law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/33 of 24 November 1999, 57/141 of 12 December 2002, 58/240 of 23 December 2003, 59/24 of 17 November 2004, 60/30 of 29 November 2005, 61/222 of 20 December 2006 and other relevant resolutions concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention"),[163]

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[164] the addendum thereto,[165] the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction ("the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group")[166] and also the reports on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea ("the Consultative Process") at its eighth meeting[167] and on the seventeenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[168]

Noting with satisfaction the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention, and emphasizing the pre-eminent contribution provided by the Convention to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal rights and to the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples of the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as for the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Emphasizing the universal and unified character of the Convention, and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[169]

Recognizing the important contribution of sustainable development and management of the resources and uses of the oceans and seas to the achievement of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[170]

Conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach, and reaffirming the need to improve cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels, in accordance with the Convention, to support and supplement the efforts of each State in promoting the implementation and observance of the Convention, and the integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Reiterating the essential need for cooperation, including through capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues,

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[163] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[164] A/62/66.

[165] A/62/66/Add.1.

[166] A/61/65.

[167] A/62/169.

[168] SPLOS/164 and Corr.1.

[169] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[170] See resolution 55/2.

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organizations to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources,

Recalling that marine science is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to understand, predict and respond to natural events and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, by improving knowledge, through sustained research efforts and the evaluation of monitoring results, and applying such knowledge to management and decision-making,

Recalling also its decision, in resolutions 57/141 and 58/240, to establish a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments, as recommended by theWorld Summit on Sustainable Development,[171] and noting the need for cooperation among all States to this end,

Reiterating its concern at the adverse impacts on the marine environment and biodiversity, in particular on vulnerable marine ecosystems, including corals, of human activities, such as overutilization of living marine resources, the use of destructive practices, physical impacts by ships, the introduction of invasive alien species and marine pollution from all sources, including from land-based sources and vessels, in particular through the illegal discharge of oil and other harmful substances, the loss or release of fishing gear and the dumping of hazardous waste such as radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals,

Expressing its serious concern over the current and projected adverse effects of anthropogenic and natural climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity,

Expressing its deep concern over the vulnerability of the environment and the fragile ecosystems of the polar regions, including the Arctic Ocean and the Arctic ice cap, particularly affected by the projected adverse effects of climate change,

Encouraging States to continue to contribute to the specific efforts deployed within the framework of the International Polar Year with the goal of enhancing the knowledge of the polar regions by strengthening scientific cooperation,

Recognizing that there is a need for a more integrated approach and to further study and promote measures for enhanced cooperation and coordination relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction,

Recognizing also that the realization of the benefits of the Convention could be enhanced by international cooperation, technical assistance and advanced scientific knowledge, as well as by funding and capacity-building,

Recognizing further that hydrographic surveys and nautical charting are critical to the safety of navigation and life at sea, environmental protection, including the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and the economics of the global shipping industry, and recognizing in this regard that the move towards electronic charting not only provides significantly increased benefits for safe navigation and management of ship movement, but also provides data and information that can be used for sustainable fisheries activities and other sectoral uses of the marine environment, the delimitation of maritime boundaries and environmental protection,

Noting with concern the continuing problem of transnational organized crime and threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, and noting the deplorable loss of life and adverse impact on international trade, energy security and the global economy resulting from such activities,

Noting the importance of the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and that it is in the broader interest of the international community that States with a continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles submit information on the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ("the Commission"), and noting in this regard that some States have already made submissions to the Commission,

Noting also that some States may face particular challenges in relation to preparing submissions to the Commission,

Noting further that financial and technical assistance may be sought by developing countries for activities in relation to preparing submissions to the Commission, including through the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 of 30 October 2000 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, as well as other accessible international assistance,

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[171] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Recognizing the important role for developing countries of the trust funds established by resolution 55/7 for the activities of the Commission, and noting with appreciation the recent contributions made to them,

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the Commission for coastal States and the international community as a whole,

Noting the important role of the Commission in assisting States parties in the implementation of Part VI of the Convention, through the examination of information submitted by coastal States regarding the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, and acknowledging in this regard the anticipated workload of the Commission owing to an increasing number of submissions, placing additional demands on its members and on the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat ("the Division"), and the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions under the Convention effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise,

Recognizing the importance and the contribution of the work over the past eight years of the Consultative Process established by resolution 54/33 to facilitate the annual review of developments in ocean affairs by the General Assembly and extended by resolutions 57/141 and 60/30,

Noting the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and in this context the increase in activities of the Division, in particular in view of the growing number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings, the increasing capacity-building activities, the need for enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and the role of the Division in inter-agency coordination and cooperation,

Emphasizing that underwater archaeological, cultural and historical heritage, including shipwrecks and watercrafts, holds essential information on the history of humankind and that such heritage is a resource that needs to be protected and preserved,

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the International Seabed Authority ("the Authority") in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 ("the Agreement"),[172]

Reaffirming also the importance of the work of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ("the Tribunal") in accordance with the Convention,

I

Implementation of the Convention and related agreements and instruments

1. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 49/28, 52/26, 54/33, 57/141, 58/240, 59/24, 60/30, 61/222 and other relevant resolutions concerning the Convention;[163]

2. *Also reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention and the vital importance of preserving its integrity;

3. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention and the Agreement;[172]

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ("the Fish Stocks Agreement");[173]

5. *Calls upon* States to harmonize, as a matter of priority, their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and, where applicable, relevant agreements and instruments, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Convention in their application to the State concerned and to withdraw any such declarations or statements;

6. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to deposit with the Secretary-General charts or lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention;

7. *Urges* all States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in taking measures to protect and preserve objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea, in conformity with the Convention, and calls upon States to work together on such diverse challenges and opportunities as the appropriate relationship between salvage law and scientific management and conservation of underwater cultural heritage, increasing technological abilities to discover and reach underwater sites, looting and growing underwater tourism;

8. *Notes* the effort made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with respect to the preservation of underwater cultural heritage, and notes in particular the rules annexed to the 2001 Convention on the

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[172] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1836, No. 31364.

[173] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage[174] that address the relationship between salvage law and scientific principles of management, conservation and protection of underwater cultural heritage among parties, their nationals and vessels flying their flag;

9. *Welcomes* the decision taken by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-fourth session to increase the resources available for the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission for the next biennium,[175] which will enable that Commission to increase its activities on an incremental basis and strengthen its capacity within the framework of the Organization;

II

Capacity-building

10. *Calls upon* donor agencies and international financial institutions to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the objectives of the present resolution, as well as the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the interests and needs of landlocked developing States;

11. *Encourages* intensified efforts to build capacity for developing countries, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to improve hydrographic services and the production of nautical charts, including electronic charts, as well as the mobilization of resources and building of capacity with support from international financial institutions and the donor community;

12. *Calls upon* States and international financial institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and technical partnerships, to continue to strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training personnel to develop and enhance relevant expertise, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels and transferring environmentally sound technologies;

13. *Also calls upon* States and international financial institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and technical partnerships, to strengthen capacity-building activities in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to develop their maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to promote effective compliance with, and implementation and enforcement of, their responsibilities under international law;

14. *Recognizes* the need to build the capacity of developing States to raise awareness of, and support implementation of, improved waste management practices, noting the particular vulnerability of small island developing States to the impact of marine pollution from land-based sources and marine debris;

15. *Also recognizes* the importance of assisting developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, in implementing the Convention, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial or other contributions to the trust funds, as referred to in resolution 57/141, established for this purpose;

16. *Encourages* States to use the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[176] and recalls the important role of the secretariat of that Commission in the implementation and promotion of the Criteria and Guidelines;

17. *Calls upon* States to assist developing States, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, at the bilateral and, where appropriate, multilateral level, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including the assessment of the nature and extent of the continental shelf of a coastal State through a desktop study, and the delineation of the outer limits of its continental shelf;

18. *Calls upon* the Division to actively disseminate information on relevant procedures related to the trust fund established for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to continue its dialogue with potential beneficiaries with a view to providing financial support to developing countries for activities to facilitate timely submissions to the Commission, and welcomes in this regard the recent adoption of a new procedure to facilitate the access of developing countries to the trust fund;

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[174] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*, resolution 24, annex.

[175] Ibid., *Thirty-fourth Session, Paris, 16 October–2 November 2007*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, resolution 93.

[176] See Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, document IOC/INF-1203.

19. *Notes with appreciation* the successful conduct by the Division of regional training courses in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean and the commencement of subregional workshops by the Division, most recently in Brunei Darussalam from 12 to 16 February 2007 and South Africa from 13 to 17 August 2007, the purpose of which was to train technical staff of coastal developing States in the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and in the preparation of submissions to the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with States and relevant international organizations and institutions, to continue making such training courses available;

20. *Also notes with appreciation* the development by the Division, in cooperation with other partners under the TRAIN-SEA-COAST Programme, of a training course on the development, implementation and management of marine protected areas and the successful delivery of the first regional training course, in Honiara from 15 to 20 January 2007;

21. *Further notes with appreciation* the regional workshops of the Tribunal, held in Libreville on 26 and 27 March 2007, Kingston from 16 to 18 April 2007 and Singapore from 29 to 31 May 2007, on the role of the Tribunal in the settlement of disputes relating to the law of the sea;

22. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to support the capacity-building activities of the Division, including, in particular, the training activities to assist developing States in the preparation of their submissions to the Commission, and invites Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat to support the promotion of international law;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, advises the Secretary-General to continue to finance the Fellowship from resources made available through an appropriate Office of Legal Affairs trust fund, and urges Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the further development of the Fellowship;

24. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the ongoing implementation of the United Nations and the Nippon Foundation Fellowship Programme, focusing on human resources development for developing coastal States parties and non-parties to the Convention in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea or related disciplines;

III

Meeting of States Parties

25. *Welcomes* the report of the seventeenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;[168]

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene a special Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, in New York on 30 January 2008, to fill a vacancy that has occurred following the resignation of one of the members of the Tribunal and to convene the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, in New York from 13 to 20 June 2008, and to provide the services required;

27. *Calls upon* States parties to transmit to the Secretariat the credentials of representatives attending the Meetings as far in advance as is practicable, and no later than 29 January and 12 June 2008, respectively;

IV

Peaceful settlement of disputes

28. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued and significant contribution of the Tribunal to the settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, and underlines the important role and authority of the Tribunal concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement;

29. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the establishment by the Tribunal of the Chamber for Maritime Delimitation Disputes;

30. *Equally pays tribute* to the important and long-standing role of the International Court of Justice with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes concerning the law of the sea;

31. *Notes* that States parties to an international agreement related to the purposes of the Convention may submit to, inter alia, the Tribunal or the International Court of Justice any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of that agreement submitted in accordance with that agreement, and notes also the possibility, provided for in the statutes of the Tribunal and the Court, to submit disputes to a chamber;

32. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making a written declaration choosing from the means set out in article 287 of the Convention for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement, bearing in mind the comprehensive character of the dispute settlement mechanism provided for in Part XV of the Convention;

V

The Area

33. *Notes* the progress of the discussions on issues relating to the regulations for prospecting and exploration for polymetallic sulphides and cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts in the Area, and reiterates the importance of the ongoing elaboration by the Authority, pursuant to article 145 of the Convention, of rules, regulations and procedures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment, the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the Area and the

prevention of damage to its flora and fauna from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area;

34. *Also notes* the importance of the responsibilities entrusted to the Authority by articles 143 and 145 of the Convention, which refer to marine scientific research and protection of the marine environment, respectively;

VI

Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal

35. *Appeals* to all States parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and to the Tribunal in full and on time, and also appeals to States parties in arrears with their contributions to fulfil their obligations without delay;

36. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to attend the sessions of the Authority, and calls upon the Authority to continue to pursue all options, including making concrete recommendations on the issue of dates, in order to improve attendance in Kingston and to ensure global participation;

37. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[177] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[178]

38. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Tribunal's rules and staff regulations promoting the recruitment of a geographically representative staff in the Professional and higher categories, and welcomes the actions taken by the Tribunal in observance of those rules and regulations, as reported by its President to the seventeenth Meeting of States Parties;[179]

VII

The continental shelf and the work of the Commission

39. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention that are in a position to do so to make every effort to submit information to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, in conformity with article 76 of the Convention and article 4 of annex II to the Convention, taking into account the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention[180] and noting discussion of this issue at the seventeenth Meeting of States Parties;[181]

40. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress in the work of the Commission,[182] that it is giving current consideration to a number of submissions that have been made regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and that a number of States have advised of their intention to make submissions in the near future;

41. *Notes* that the anticipated heavy workload of the Commission, owing to an increasing number of submissions, places additional demands on its members and the Division, and in that regard emphasizes the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise;

42. *Takes note* of the decision of the Commission to maintain, to the extent possible given the term of office of the members of the Commission, continuity in the composition of subcommissions throughout the consideration of a submission;[183]

43. *Also takes note* of the decision of the seventeenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to continue to address, as a matter of priority, issues related to the workload of the Commission, including funding for its members attending the sessions of the Commission and the meetings of the subcommissions;[184]

44. *Calls upon* States whose experts are serving on the Commission to do their utmost to ensure the full participation of those experts in the work of the Commission, including the meetings of subcommissions, in accordance with the Convention;

45. *Takes note with concern* of the information provided by the Division regarding the inadequacies in the current level of staffing as well as the hardware and software available to it which are required to support the Commission in the fulfilment of its functions, as reflected in paragraph 69 of the report of the seventeenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;[185]

46. *Endorses*, in this regard, the request by the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to the Secretary-General to take timely measures, before the twenty-first session of the Commission, to strengthen the capacity of the Division, serving as the secretariat of the Commission, within overall existing resource levels, in order to ensure enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and its subcommissions, in their consideration of submissions,[186] as required by paragraph 9 of annex III to the rules of procedure of the Commission;[187]

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[177] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2167, No. 37925.

[178] Ibid., vol. 2214, No. 39357.

[179] SPLOS/164 and Corr.1, para. 22.

[180] SPLOS/72.

[181] SPLOS/164 and Corr.1, paras. 56–78.

[182] See CLCS/54 and CLCS/56.

[183] See CLCS/56, paras. 12–14.

[184] See SPLOS/162.

[185] See SPLOS/164 and Corr.1.

[186] SPLOS/162, para. 6.

[187] CLCS/40.

47. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary actions to ensure that the Commission can fulfil the functions entrusted to it under the Convention;

48. *Encourages* States to make additional contributions to the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to the voluntary trust fund also established by that resolution for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission;

49. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the twenty-first and twenty-second sessions of the Commission, in New York, from 17 March to 18 April 2008 and from 11 August to 12 September 2008, respectively, on the understanding that the following periods will be used for the technical examination of submissions at the Geographic Information System laboratories and other technical facilities of the Division: 17 to 28 March 2008; 14 to 18 April 2008; 11 to 15 August 2008; and 2 to 12 September 2008;

50. *Expresses its firm conviction* about the importance of the work of the Commission, carried out in accordance with the Convention, including with respect to the participation of the coastal State in relevant proceedings concerning its submission, and recognizes the continued need for active interaction between submitting States and the Commission;

51. *Encourages* States to continue exchanging views in order to increase understanding of issues, including expenditures involved, arising from the application of article 76 of the Convention, thus facilitating preparation of submissions by States, in particular developing States, to the Commission;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Member States, to continue supporting and organizing workshops or symposiums on scientific and technical aspects of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, taking into account the need to strengthen capacity-building for developing countries in preparing their submissions;

VIII

Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation

53. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the safety and security of navigation, as well as maritime labour, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention, aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

54. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Work in Fishing Convention (No. 188) and the related Recommendation (No. 199), 2007 by the International Labour Conference on 14 June 2007, and encourages States to become parties to that Convention;

55. *Also welcomes* the continuing review by the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization of Guidelines on Fair Treatment of Seafarers in the Event of a Maritime Accident,[188] and notes the decision of the International Maritime Organization to continue to monitor the implementation of the Guidelines;

56. *Calls upon* States to consider becoming members of the International Hydrographic Organization, and urges all States to work with that Organization to increase the coverage of hydrographic information on a global basis to enhance capacity-building and technical assistance and to promote safe navigation, especially in areas used for international navigation, ports and where there are vulnerable or protected marine areas;

57. *Encourages* States to draw up plans and to establish procedures to implement the Guidelines on Places of Refuge for Ships in Need of Assistance;[189]

58. *Notes* the progress in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency in March 2004,[190] and encourages States concerned to continue their efforts in the implementation of all areas of the Action Plan;

59. *Also notes* that cessation of the transport of radioactive materials through the regions of small island developing States is an ultimate desired goal of small island developing States and some other countries, and recognizes the right of freedom of navigation in accordance with international law; that States should maintain dialogue and consultation, in particular under the aegis of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Maritime Organization, with the aim of improved mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials; that States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States and other States to address their concerns; and that these concerns include the further development and strengthening, within the appropriate forums, of international regulatory regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transport;[191]

60. *Further notes* the decision taken at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel

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[188] Adopted by the International Maritime Organization Legal Committee on 27 April 2006 as resolution LEG.3(91), and by the International Labour Organization Governing Body on 12 June 2006, at its 296th session.

[189] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.949(23).

[190] Available from www-ns.iaea.org.

[191] Resolution 60/1, para. 56 (*o*).

Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, aimed at reinforcing cooperation with the International Maritime Organization on regulations on the prevention of pollution from ships;[192]

61. *Encourages* States to cooperate to address threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, through bilateral and multilateral instruments and mechanisms aimed at monitoring, preventing and responding to such threats;

62. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to actively combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including those relating to assistance with capacity-building through training of seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel in the prevention, reporting and investigation of incidents, bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, and by adopting national legislation, as well as providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

63. *Welcomes* the significant decrease in the number of attacks by pirates and armed robbers in the Asian region through increased national action and regional cooperation;

64. *Expresses deep concern* about the continuous violent attacks on ships off the coast of Somalia, and welcomes the initiatives supported by the International Maritime Organization and the World Food Programme to strengthen cooperation among States to protect ships, in particular those transporting humanitarian aid, from acts of piracy and armed robbery in that region;

65. *Notes* the adoption of resolution A.1002(25) on 29 November 2007 by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization on acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia, and encourages States to ensure its full implementation;

66. *Also notes* the initiatives taken by the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization, following up on resolution A.979(24) adopted by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization on 23 November 2005, to engage the international community in efforts to combat acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships sailing the waters off the coast of Somalia;

67. *Calls upon* States to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[193] invites States to consider becoming parties to the 2005 Protocols amending those instruments,[194] and also urges States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments, through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate;

68. *Also calls upon* States to effectively implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code and the amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea,[195] and to work with the International Maritime Organization to promote safe and secure shipping while ensuring freedom of navigation;

69. *Welcomes* the adoption on 18 May 2007 of the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007, under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, and invites States to note its opening for signature from 19 November 2007 to 18 November 2008;

70. *Requests* States to take appropriate measures with regard to ships flying their flag or of their registry to address hazards that may be caused by wrecks and drifting or sunken cargo to navigation or the marine environment;

71. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to improve the protection of offshore installations by adopting measures related to the prevention, reporting and investigation of acts of violence against installations, in accordance with international law, and by implementing such measures through national legislation to ensure proper and adequate enforcement;

72. *Calls upon* States to ensure freedom of navigation, the safety of navigation and the rights of transit passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage and innocent passage in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention;

73. *Welcomes* the work of the International Maritime Organization relating to the protection of shipping lanes of strategic importance and significance, and in particular in enhancing safety, security and environmental protection in straits used for international navigation, and calls upon the International Maritime Organization, States bordering straits and user States to continue their cooperation efforts to keep such straits safe, secure and environmentally protected and open to international navigation at all times, consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

74. *Calls upon* user States and States bordering straits used for international navigation to cooperate by agreement on matters relating to navigational safety, including safety aids for navigation, and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution from ships, and welcomes developments in this regard;

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[192] UNEP/CHW.8/16, annex I, decision VIII/9.

[193] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1678, No. 29004.

[194] International Maritime Organization, documents LEG/CONF.15/21 and 22.

[195] International Maritime Organization, documents SOLAS/CONF.5/32 and 34, as well as resolution MSC.202(81) introducing the long-range identification and tracking of ships system.

75. *Welcomes* the progress in regional cooperation, including the Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore Statements on Enhancement of Safety, Security and Environmental Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, adopted on 8 September 2005,[196] 20 September 2006[197] and 6 September 2007,[198] respectively, especially the formal establishment of the Cooperative Mechanism on safety of navigation and environmental protection to promote dialogue and facilitate close cooperation between the littoral States, user States, shipping industry and other stakeholders in line with article 43 of the Convention, and in implementing the Marine Electronic Highway Demonstration Project for the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, notes with appreciation that the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia is already operational in Singapore, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level;

76. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[199] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[200] and to take appropriate measures to ensure their effective implementation;

77. *Calls upon* States to ensure that masters on ships flying their flag take the steps required by relevant instruments[201] to provide assistance to persons in distress at sea, and urges States to cooperate and to take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the amendments to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue[202] and to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea[203] relating to the delivery of persons rescued at sea to a place of safety, as well as of the associated Guidelines on the Treatment of Persons Rescued at Sea;[204]

78. *Urges* flag States without an effective maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to ensure effective compliance with, and implementation and enforcement of, their responsibilities under international law and, until such action is [illegible]en, to consider declining the granting of the right to fly [illegible]lag to new vessels, suspending their registry or not openin[illegible]gistry, and calls upon flag and port States to take al[illegible]easures consistent with international law necessary to prevent the operation of substandard vessels;

79. *Welcomes* the audits that have been completed pursuant to the Voluntary International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme[205] and the Code for the implementation of mandatory International Maritime Organization instruments,[206] and encourages all flag States to volunteer to be audited;

IX

Marine environment and marine resources

80. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures consistent with the Convention, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

81. *Notes* the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including the finding that, while the effects of observed ocean acidification on the marine biosphere are as yet undocumented, the progressive acidification of oceans is expected to have negative impacts on marine shell-forming organisms and their dependent species, and in this regard encourages States to urgently pursue further research on ocean acidification, especially programmes of observation and measurement;

82. *Encourages* States, individually or in collaboration with relevant international organizations and bodies, to enhance their scientific activity to better understand the effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity and develop ways and means of adaptation;

83. *Calls upon* States to enhance their efforts to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, in accordance with the principles contained in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[207] in order to reduce and tackle

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[196] A/60/529, annex II.

[197] A/61/584, annex.

[198] A/62/518, annex.

[199] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[200] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[201] The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, and the International Convention on Salvage, 1989.

[202] International Maritime Organization, document MSC/78/26/Add.1, annex 5, resolution MSC.155(78).

[203] Ibid., annex 3, resolution MSC.153(78).

[204] International Maritime Organization, document MSC/78/26/Add.2, annex 34, resolution MSC.167(78).

[205] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.974(24).

[206] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.973(24).

[207] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

projected adverse effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity;

84. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment and its living marine resources against the introduction of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens and marine pollution from all sources, and other forms of physical degradation, as well as agreements that provide for compensation for damage resulting from marine pollution, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

85. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 ("the London Protocol")[208] and the Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Cooperation to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances, 2000;[209]

86. *Welcomes* the commencement of activities by the International Maritime Organization to investigate the development of international measures for minimizing the translocation of invasive aquatic species through biofouling of ships, and encourages States and relevant organizations and bodies to assist in that process;

87. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption of the Baltic Sea Action Plan, in Krakow, Poland, on 15 November 2007, by the Member States of the Helsinki Commission, the aim of which is to drastically reduce pollution in the Baltic Sea and restore it to a good ecological status by 2021;

88. *Encourages* States, in accordance with the Convention and other relevant instruments, either bilaterally or regionally, to jointly develop and promote contingency plans for responding to pollution incidents, as well as other incidents that are likely to have significant adverse effects on the marine environment and biodiversity;

89. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme relating to marine debris carried out in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, and encourages States to further develop partnerships with industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss;

90. *Urges* States to integrate the issue of marine debris into national strategies dealing with waste management in the coastal zone, ports and maritime industries, including recycling, reuse, reduction and disposal, and to encourage the development of appropriate economic incentives to address this issue, including the development of cost recovery systems that provide an incentive to use port reception facilities and discourage ships from discharging marine debris at sea, and encourages States to cooperate regionally and subregionally to develop and implement joint prevention and recovery programmes for marine debris;

91. *Encourages* States that have not done so to become parties to the Protocol of 1997 (Annex VI-Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, and furthermore to ratify or accede to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004,[210] thereby facilitating its early entry into force;

92. *Welcomes* the forthcoming entry into force on 17 September 2008 of the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001;[211]

93. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization in accordance with its resolution on International Maritime Organization policies and practices related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships[212] and the workplan to identify and develop the mechanism or mechanisms needed to achieve the limitation or reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from international shipping, and welcomes ongoing efforts of the Organization in that regard;

94. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the International Maritime Organization in developing and approving an action plan to address the inadequacy of port waste reception facilities, and urges States to cooperate in correcting the shortfall in such facilities in accordance with the action plan;

95. *Calls upon* States to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities[213] and to take all appropriate measures to fulfil the commitments of the international community embodied in the Beijing Declaration on Furthering the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action;

96. *Welcomes* the continued work of States, the United Nations Environment Programme and regional organizations in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and encourages increased emphasis on the link between freshwater,

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[208] International Maritime Organization, document IMO/LC.2/Circ.380.

[209] HNS-OPRC/CONF/11/Rev.1, attachment 1.

[210] International Maritime Organization, document BWM/CONF/36, annex.

[211] International Maritime Organization, document AFS/CONF/26, annex.

[212] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.963(23).

[213] A/51/116, annex II.

the coastal zone and marine resources in the implementation of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[170] and of the time-bound targets in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[214] in particular the target on sanitation, and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[215]

97. *Also welcomes* the decision of the twenty-ninth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 ("the London Convention") and the second Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 5 to 9 November 2007, which endorsed the June 2007 "Statement of concern" of their Scientific Groups;[216] recognized that it was within the purview of each State to consider proposals on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the London Convention and Protocol; urged States to use the utmost caution when considering proposals for large-scale ocean fertilization operations; and took the view that, given the present state of knowledge regarding ocean fertilization, such large-scale operations were currently not justified;[217]

98. *Encourages* States to support the further study and enhance understanding of ocean iron fertilization;

99. *Reaffirms* paragraph 119 of resolution 61/222 regarding ecosystem approaches and oceans, including the proposed elements of an ecosystem approach, means to achieve implementation of an ecosystem approach and requirements for improved application of an ecosystem approach, and in this regard:

(*a*) Notes that continued environmental degradation in many parts of the world and increasing competing demands require an urgent response and the setting of priorities for management interventions aimed at conserving ecosystem integrity;

(*b*) Notes that ecosystem approaches to ocean management should be focused on managing human activities in order to maintain and, where needed, restore ecosystem health to sustain goods and environmental services, provide social and economic benefits for food security, sustain livelihoods in support of international development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and conserve marine biodiversity;

(*c*) Recalls that States should be guided in the application of ecosystem approaches by a number of existing instruments, in particular the Convention, which sets out the legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas, and its implementing Agreements, as well as other commitments, such as those contained in the Convention on Biological Diversity and the World Summit on Sustainable Development call for the application of an ecosystem approach by 2010;

(*d*) Encourages States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts and take, individually or jointly, as appropriate, all measures, in conformity with international law, including the Convention and other applicable instruments, to address impacts on marine ecosystems within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction, taking into account the integrity of the ecosystems concerned;

100. *Invites* States, in particular those States with advanced technology and marine capabilities, to explore prospects for improving cooperation with, and assistance to, developing States, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, with a view to better integrating into national policies and programmes sustainable and effective development in the marine sector;

101. *Encourages* the competent international organizations, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other funding agencies to consider expanding their programmes within their respective fields of competence for assistance to developing countries and to coordinate their efforts, including in the allocation and application of Global Environment Facility funding;

102. *Notes* the information provided by the Secretary-General relating to the study on the assistance available to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session pursuant to paragraph 88 of resolution 61/222, urges States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies to provide further information, and requests that the study be prepared in continuing cooperation with such States and organizations and based on information so provided or disseminated and otherwise available in the public domain;

X

Marine biodiversity

103. *Reaffirms* its role relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, notes the work of States and relevant complementary intergovernmental organizations and bodies on those issues, including the Convention on Biological Diversity

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[214] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[215] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[216] See International Maritime Organization, document LC-LP.1/Circ.14.

[217] See International Maritime Organization, document LC 29/17.

and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and invites them to contribute to its consideration of these issues within the areas of their respective competence;

104. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, prepared and released in response to the request in paragraph 92 of resolution 61/222;[218]

105. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group in accordance with paragraph 91 of resolution 61/222 and paragraphs 79 and 80 of resolution 60/30, to take place in New York from 28 April to 2 May 2008, and to provide the services required;

106. *Encourages* States to include relevant experts in their delegations attending the meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group;

107. *Recognizes* the importance of making the outcomes of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group widely available;

108. *Notes* the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity[219] and the Convention on Biological Diversity elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity,[220] as well as the relevant decisions adopted at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Curitiba, Brazil, from 20 to 31 March 2006;[221]

109. *Reaffirms* the need for States and competent international organizations to urgently consider ways to integrate and improve, based on the best available scientific information and in accordance with the Convention and related agreements and instruments, the management of risks to the marine biodiversity of seamounts, cold water corals, hydrothermal vents and certain other underwater features;

110. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to urgently take further action to address, in accordance with international law, destructive practices that have adverse impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals;

111. *Reaffirms* the need for States to continue their efforts to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the possible establishment of marine protected areas, consistent with international law and based on the best scientific information available, and the development of representative networks of any such marine protected areas by 2012;

112. *Notes* the work of States, relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the assessment of scientific information on, and compilation of ecological criteria for the identification of, marine areas that require protection, in light of the objective of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools such as the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information, including representative networks by 2012;[171]

113. *Acknowledges*, in this regard, the Micronesia Challenge, the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape project and the Caribbean Challenge, which in particular seek to create and link domestic marine protected areas to better facilitate ecosystem approaches, and reaffirms the need for further international cooperation in support of such initiatives;

114. *Notes* the work of the scientific experts' workshops on ecological criteria and biogeographic classification systems for marine areas in need of protection, held in Azores, Portugal, from 2 to 4 October 2007,[222] on biogeographic classification systems in open ocean and deep seabed areas beyond national jurisdiction, held in Mexico City from 22 to 24 January 2007, and on criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant areas beyond national jurisdiction, held in Ottawa from 6 to 8 December 2005;[223]

115. *Also notes* the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment synthesis reports and the urgent need to protect the marine biodiversity expressed therein;

116. *Reiterates its support* for the International Coral Reef Initiative, takes note of the International Coral Reef Initiative General Meeting, held in Tokyo from 22 to 24 April 2007, and the upcoming eleventh International Coral Reef Symposium, to be held in Fort Lauderdale, United States of America, in July 2008, supports the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity and the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity related to coral reefs, and notes that the International Coral Reef Initiative is sponsoring the International Year of the Reef 2008;

117. *Expresses its concern* that coral bleaching has become more frequent and severe throughout tropical seas over the last two decades, and highlights the need for improved monitoring to predict and identify bleaching events to support and strengthen action during such events and improve strategies to support the natural resilience of reefs;

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[218] A/62/66/Add.2.

[219] See A/51/312, annex II, decision II/10.

[220] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/5, annex I.

[221] UNEP/CBD/COP/8/31, annex I.

[222] See UNEP/CBD/EWS.MPA/1/2.

[223] See A/AC.259/16, annex.

118. *Encourages* States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in exchanging information in the event of accidents involving vessels on coral reefs and in promoting the development of economic assessment techniques for both restoration and non-use values of coral reef systems;

119. *Emphasizes* the need to mainstream sustainable coral reef management and integrated watershed management into national development strategies, as well as into the activities of relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, international financial institutions and the donor community;

120. *Notes* the peer-reviewed scientific studies received by the Division from Member States, pursuant to paragraph 107 of resolution 61/222, encourages further studies and consideration of the impacts of ocean noise on marine living resources, and requests the Division to continue to compile the peer-reviewed scientific studies it receives from Member States and, as appropriate, to make them, or references and links to them, available on its website;

XI

Marine science

121. *Calls upon* States, individually or in collaboration with each other or with relevant international organizations and bodies, to improve understanding and knowledge of the oceans and the deep sea, including, in particular, the extent and vulnerability of deep sea biodiversity and ecosystems, by increasing their marine scientific research activities in accordance with the Convention;

122. *Notes* the contribution of the Census of Marine Life to marine biodiversity research, and encourages participation in the initiative;

123. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on the development of procedures for the implementation of Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention and on the development of a consensual text on the legal framework for the collection of oceanographic data within the context of the Convention;

124. *Stresses* the importance of increasing the scientific understanding of the oceans/atmosphere interface, including through participation in ocean observing programmes and geographic information systems, such as the Global Ocean Observing System, a programme of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, particularly considering their role in monitoring and forecasting climate change and variability and in the establishment and operation of tsunami warning systems;

125. *Recognizes* the significant progress made by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Member States towards the establishment of regional tsunami warning and mitigation systems and the new effort to identify common requirements for regional centres, welcomes the continued collaboration of the World Meteorological Organization and other United Nations and intergovernmental organizations in this effort, and encourages Member States to establish and sustain their national warning and mitigation systems, within a global, ocean-related multi-hazard approach, as necessary, to reduce loss of life and damage to national economies and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to natural disasters;

XII

Regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects

126. *Recalls* that the Ad Hoc Steering Group was established by resolution 60/30;

127. *Takes note* of the report of the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Steering Group for the "assessment of assessments" launched as a preparatory stage towards the establishment of the regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, held in New York on 22 June 2007,[224] and urges Member States from the African regional group to propose the remaining representative to the Chairman of the regional group so that the appointment to the Ad Hoc Steering Group of that representative can be made by the President of the General Assembly without further delay;

128. *Also takes note* of the overall working approach, the outline for the "assessment of assessments" report and the timeline and workplan for the "assessment of assessments", proposed by the Group of Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/30, at the first meeting, held in Paris from 28 to 30 March 2007,[225] and endorsed by the Ad Hoc Steering Group at its second meeting, subject to the availability of funding;

129. *Welcomes with appreciation* the support of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission for the "assessment of assessments" in providing secretariat services to the Ad Hoc Steering Group and the Group of Experts;

130. *Invites* Member States, the Global Environment Facility and other interested parties to contribute financially to the "assessment of assessments", taking into account the workplan and budget approved by the Ad Hoc Steering Group, in order to complete the "assessment of assessments" within the specified period;

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[224] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNGA 60/30-A of A-AHSG/2.

[225] GRAME/GOE/1/7.

XIII

Regional cooperation

131. *Notes* that there have been a number of initiatives at the regional level, in various regions, to further the implementation of the Convention, takes note in that context of the Caribbean-focused Assistance Fund, which is intended to facilitate, mainly through technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, takes note once again of the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these funds;

XIV

Open-ended informal consultative process on oceans and the law of the sea

132. *Takes note* of the report and annex on the work of the Consultative Process at its eighth meeting,[167] focused on the topic of marine genetic resources, and acknowledges the need to discuss the issue of marine genetic resources in the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group in accordance with paragraph 91 of resolution 61/222, taking into consideration the possible elements suggested by the co-chairpersons of the Consultative Process;

133. *Notes* the discussion on the relevant legal regime on marine genetic resources in areas beyond national jurisdiction in accordance with the Convention, and calls upon States to further consider this issue in the context of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group, with a view to making further progress on this issue;

134. *Recognizes* the abundance and diversity of marine genetic resources and their value in terms of benefits, goods and services they can provide;

135. *Also recognizes* the importance of research on marine genetic resources for the purpose of enhancing the scientific understanding, potential use and application, and enhanced management of marine ecosystems;

136. *Encourages* States and international organizations, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and partnerships, to continue in a sustainable and comprehensive way to support, promote and strengthen capacity-building activities in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research, in particular, taking into account the need to create greater taxonomic capabilities;

137. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 54/33, the ninth meeting of the Consultative Process, in New York from 23 to 27 June 2008, to provide it with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, as appropriate;

138. *Recalls* the need to strengthen and improve the efficiency of the Consultative Process, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations and programmes to provide guidance to the co-chairpersons to this effect, particularly before and during the preparatory meeting for the Consultative Process, and in this regard notes its decision to further review the effectiveness and utility of the Consultative Process at its sixty-third session;[226]

139. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the insufficient resources available in the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in attending the meetings of the Consultative Process, and urges States to make additional contributions to the trust fund;

140. *Decides* that those representatives from developing countries who are invited by the co-chairpersons to make presentations during the meetings of the Consultative Process shall receive priority consideration in the disbursement of funds from the voluntary trust fund established by resolution 55/7 in order to cover the costs of their travel, and shall also be eligible to receive daily subsistence allowance subject to the availability of funds after the travel costs of all other eligible representatives from those countries mentioned in paragraph 139 above have been covered;

141. *Recalls* its decision to focus its discussions on the topic "Maritime security and safety" at the ninth meeting of the Consultative Process;

XV

Coordination and cooperation

142. *Encourages* States to work closely with and through international organizations, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and relevant international conventions, to identify emerging areas of focus for improved coordination and cooperation and how best to address these issues;

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[226] Resolution 60/30, para. 99.

143. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, as well as funding institutions, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

144. *Welcomes* the work done by the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation on ocean issues, including through UN-Oceans, the inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

145. *Encourages* continued updates to Member States by UN-Oceans regarding its priorities and initiatives, in particular with respect to the proposed participation in UN-Oceans;

XVI

Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

146. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea, prepared by the Division, as well as for the other activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

147. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities and functions entrusted to him in the Convention and by the related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

XVII

Sixty-third session of the General Assembly

148. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report, in its current comprehensive format and in accordance with established practice, for the consideration of the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the implementation of the present resolution, in accordance with resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and to make the report available at least six weeks in advance of the meeting of the Consultative Process;

149. *Emphasizes* the critical role of the annual comprehensive report of the Secretary-General, which integrates information on developments relating to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the Organization, its specialized agencies and other institutions in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the global and regional levels, and as a result constitutes the basis for the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review;

150. *Notes* that the report referred to in paragraph 148 above will also be submitted to States parties pursuant to article 319 of the Convention regarding issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention;

151. *Also notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of, and effective participation of delegations in, the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea and the resolution on sustainable fisheries, and decides to limit the period of the informal consultations on both resolutions to a maximum of four weeks in total and to ensure that the consultations are scheduled in such a way as to avoid overlap with the period during which the Sixth Committee is meeting and that the Division has sufficient time to produce the report referred to in paragraph 148 above, and invites States to submit text proposals for inclusion in the resolutions to the coordinators of the informal consultations at the earliest possible date;

152. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

II. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the First Committee

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RESOLUTION 62/13

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/381, para. 8)[1]

62/13. Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/72 of 4 December 1998, 54/43 of 1 December 1999, 56/14 of 29 November 2001, 58/28 of 8 December 2003 and 60/44 of 8 December 2005 on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,

Also recalling its resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, which introduced the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, and its resolutions 48/62 of 16 December 1993, 49/66 of 15 December 1994, 51/38 of 10 December 1996 and 52/32 of 9 December 1997, calling upon all Member States to participate in it, and its resolution 47/54 B of 9 December 1992, endorsing the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters and inviting Member States to provide the Secretary-General with relevant information regarding their implementation,

Noting that since then, national reports on military expenditures and on the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters have been submitted by a number of Member States belonging to different geographical regions,

Convinced that the improvement of international relations forms a sound basis for promoting further openness and transparency in all military matters,

Also convinced that transparency in military matters is an essential element for building a climate of trust and confidence between States worldwide and that a better flow of objective information on military matters can help to relieve international tension and is therefore an important contribution to conflict prevention,

Noting the role of the standardized reporting system, as instituted through its resolution 35/142 B, as an important instrument to enhance transparency in military matters,

Conscious that the value of the standardized reporting system would be enhanced by a broader participation of Member States,

Noting that the continuing operation of the standardized reporting system should be reviewed with a view to improving its further development and to broadening participation in it,

Welcoming, therefore, the report of the Secretary-General[2] on ways and means to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, including, in particular, how to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system,

Recalling that the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters recommended certain areas for further consideration, such as the improvement of the standardized reporting system,

Noting the efforts of several regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures, including standardized annual exchanges of relevant information among their member States,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to report annually, by 30 April, to the Secretary-General their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available, using, preferably and to the extent possible, the reporting instrument as recommended in its resolution 35/142 B or, as appropriate, any other format developed in conjunction with similar reporting on military expenditures to other international or regional organizations, and, in the same context, encourages Member States to submit nil returns, if appropriate;

2. *Recommends* the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters to all Member States for implementation, fully taking into account specific political, military and other conditions prevailing in a region, on the basis of initiatives and with the agreement of the States of the region concerned;

3. *Encourages* relevant international bodies and regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to enhance complementarity among reporting systems, taking into account the particular characteristics of each region, and to consider the possibility of an exchange of information with the United Nations;

4. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures;[3]

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[2] A/54/298.

[3] A/58/202 and Add.1–3, A/59/192 and Add.1, A/60/159 and Add.1–3, A/61/133 and Add.1–3 and A/62/158 and Add.1 and 2.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within available resources:

(*a*) To continue the practice of sending an annual note verbale to Member States requesting the submission of data to the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, together with the reporting format and related instructions, and to publish in a timely fashion in appropriate United Nations media the due date for transmitting data on military expenditures;

(*b*) To circulate annually the reports on military expenditures as received from Member States;

(*c*) To establish a group of governmental experts, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to review the operation and further development of the Standardized Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures, commencing in 2010, taking into account the views expressed by Member States on the subject and the reports of the Secretary-General on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures, and to transmit the report of the group of experts to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-sixth session;

(*d*) To continue consultations with relevant international bodies, with a view to ascertaining requirements for adjusting the present instrument, with a view to encouraging wider participation, and to make recommendations, based on the outcome of those consultations and taking into account the views of Member States, on necessary changes to the content and structure of the standardized reporting system;

(*e*) To encourage relevant international bodies and organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to consult with those bodies and organizations with emphasis on examining possibilities for enhancing complementarity among international and regional reporting systems and for exchanging related information between those bodies and the United Nations;

(*f*) To encourage the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific, and in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist Member States in their regions in enhancing their knowledge of the standardized reporting system;

(*g*) To promote international and regional/subregional symposiums and training seminars to explain the purpose of the standardized reporting system and to give relevant technical instructions;

(*h*) To report on experiences gained during such symposiums and training seminars;

6. *Encourages* Member States:

(*a*) To inform the Secretary-General about possible problems with the standardized reporting system and their reasons for not submitting the requested data;

(*b*) To continue to provide the Secretary-General, in time for deliberation by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, with their views and suggestions on ways and means to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system, including necessary changes to its content and structure;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures".

RESOLUTION 62/14

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/382, para. 7),[4] by a recorded vote of 130 to 3, with 47 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine

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[4] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

62/14. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, contained in its resolution 2832 (XXVI) of 16 December 1971, and recalling also its resolutions 54/47 of 1 December 1999, 56/16 of 29 November 2001, 58/29 of 8 December 2003 and 60/48 of 8 December 2005 and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the report of the Meeting of the Littoral and Hinterland States of the Indian Ocean held in July 1979,[5]

Recalling further paragraph 102 of the Final Document of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[6] in which it was noted, inter alia, that the Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean would continue his informal consultations on the future work of the Committee,

Emphasizing the need to foster consensual approaches that are conducive to the pursuit of such endeavours,

Noting the initiatives taken by countries of the region to promote cooperation, in particular economic cooperation, in the Indian Ocean area and the possible contribution of such initiatives to overall objectives of a zone of peace,

Convinced that the participation of all permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would assist the progress of a mutually beneficial dialogue to develop conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Considering that greater efforts and more time are required to develop a focused discussion on practical measures to ensure conditions of peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region,

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean,[7]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean;[7]

2. *Reiterates its conviction* that the participation of all permanent members of the Security Council and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee is important and would greatly facilitate the development of a mutually beneficial dialogue to advance peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region;

3. *Requests* the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee to continue his informal consultations with the members of the Committee and to report through the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render, within existing resources, all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Committee, including the provision of summary records;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace".

RESOLUTION 62/15

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/383, para. 8)[8]

62/15. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/53 of 10 December 1996 and 56/17 of 29 November 2001 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity,

Recalling also the signing of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[9] at Cairo on 11 April 1996,

Recalling further the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,[10] which emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

Taking note of the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,[11] affirming that the signature of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

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[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 45* and corrigendum (A/34/45 and Corr.1).

[6] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 29* (A/62/29).

[8] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[9] See A/50/426, annex.

[10] A/51/113-S/1996/276, annex.

[11] S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1996*.

1. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[9] as soon as possible so that it may enter into force without delay;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols concerning them to do so as soon as possible;

3. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all necessary measures to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and that lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

4. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[12] that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (b) of and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba when it enters into force, and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the Model Protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;[13]

5. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General, the Chairman of the Commission of the African Union and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

RESOLUTION 62/16

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/384, para. 8)[14]

62/16. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[15] was opened for signature at Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Recalling also that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that military denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling further that, in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Recalling that in 1990, 1991 and 1992 the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean approved and opened for signature a set of amendments[16] to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, with the aim of enabling the full entry into force of that instrument,

Noting with satisfaction the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which was observed in Mexico City on 14 February 2007,

Highlighting that the Treaty of Tlatelolco is now in force for thirty-three sovereign States of the region, thereby consolidating the first nuclear-weapon-free zone established in a densely populated region,

Noting with satisfaction the leadership of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in the convening of the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005,

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening the Agency as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring full compliance with and implementation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, as well as cooperation with the agencies of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[15] is now in force for the sovereign States of the region;

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[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[13] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/540 (Corrected).

[14] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[16] A/47/467, annex.

2. *Urges* the countries of the region that have not yet done so to sign or deposit their instruments of ratification of the amendments to the Treaty of Tlatelolco approved by the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean in its resolutions 267 (E-V), 268 (XII) and 290 (E-VII);

3. *Encourages* States members of the Agency to continue activities and efforts with a view to implementing the Declaration adopted at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones;[17]

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

RESOLUTION 62/17

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/386, para. 8),[18] by a recorded vote of 179 to 1, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: None

62/17. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005 and 61/54 of 6 December 2006,

Recalling also its resolutions on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, in which, inter alia, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Affirming that it sees in this process the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of humankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

Recalling, in this connection, the approaches and principles outlined at the Information Society and Development Conference, held in Midrand, South Africa, from 13 to 15 May 1996,

Bearing in mind the results of the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris on 30 July 1996, and the recommendations that it made,[19]

Bearing in mind also the results of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003 (first phase) and in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005 (second phase),[20]

Noting that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

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[17] A/60/121, annex III.

[18] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Belarus, Chile, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Mali, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[19] See A/51/261, annex.

[20] See A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.

Expressing its concern that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Noting the contribution of those Member States that have submitted their assessments on issues of information security to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolutions 53/70, 54/49, 55/28, 56/19, 57/53, 58/32, 59/61, 60/45 and 61/54,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General containing those assessments,[21]

Welcoming the initiative taken by the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in convening an international meeting of experts in Geneva in August 1999 on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, as well as its results,

Considering that the assessments of the Member States contained in the reports of the Secretary-General and the international meeting of experts have contributed to a better understanding of the substance of issues of international information security and related notions,

Bearing in mind that the Secretary-General, in fulfilment of resolution 58/32, established in 2004 a group of governmental experts, which, in accordance with its mandate, considered existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them and conducted a study on relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security, prepared on the basis of the results of the Group's work,[22]

1. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible measures to limit the threats emerging in this field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

2. *Considers* that the purpose of such measures could be served through the examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

3. *Invites* all Member States to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(*a*) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(*b*) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in this field;

(*c*) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 above;

(*d*) Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts, to be established in 2009 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to continue to study existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them, as well as the concepts referred to in paragraph 2 above, and to submit a report on the results of this study to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

RESOLUTION 62/18

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/387, para. 7)[23]

62/18. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of

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[21] A/54/213, A/55/140 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/56/164 and Add.1, A/57/166 and Add.1, A/58/373, A/59/116 and Add.1, A/60/95 and Add.1, and A/61/161 and Add.1.

[22] A/60/202.

[23] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000, 56/21 of 29 November 2001, 57/55 of 22 November 2002, 58/34 of 8 December 2003, 59/63 of 3 December 2004, 60/52 of 8 December 2005 and 61/56 of 6 December 2006 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[24]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 61/56,[25]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[26]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(51)/RES/17, adopted on 20 September 2007 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-first regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;[27]

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[24] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or

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[24] Resolution S-10/2.

[25] A/62/95 (Part I) and Add.1.

[26] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[27] See International Atomic Energy Agency, ***Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-first Regular Session, 17–21 September 2007*** (GC(51)/RES/DEC(2007)).

otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[25]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990[28] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 62/19

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/388, para. 7),[29] by a recorded vote of 121 to 1, with 56 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/19. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Welcoming the progress achieved in recent years in both nuclear and conventional disarmament,

Noting that, despite recent progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, further efforts are necessary towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

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[28] A/45/435.

[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Myanmar, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[30] the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[31] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session,[32] the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session,[33] the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[34]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[35] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention.

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[36] which was reiterated at the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,[37] as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999, 55/31 of 20 November 2000, 56/22 of 29 November 2001, 57/56 of 22 November 2002, 58/35 of 8 December 2003, 59/64 of 3 December 2004, 60/53 of 8 December 2005 and 61/57 of 6 December 2006,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including,

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[30] Resolution S-10/2.

[31] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[32] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

[33] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[34] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

[35] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), para. 39.

[36] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

[37] See A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be explored further in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international agreements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 62/20

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/389, para. 7),[38] by a recorded vote of 178 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Israel

62/20. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[39]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[40] in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing that prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

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[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

[39] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[40] Resolution S-10/2.

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,[41] and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[42]

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts in the field of preventing an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Ad Hoc Committee and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive, structured and focused debate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the Conference on Disarmament in 2007,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[39]

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space does not in and of itself guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to complete the examination and updating of the mandate contained in its decision of 13 February 1992[42] and to establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible during its 2008 session;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

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[41] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/49/27), sect. III.D (para. 5 of the quoted text).

[42] CD/1125.

RESOLUTION 62/21

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/390, para. 7)[43]

62/21. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/60 of 3 December 2004, in which it requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a panel of government experts, to explore the question of verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification,

Noting two previous reports of the Secretary-General on the subject submitted in 1990 and 1995,[44]

Recalling its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 59/60, to transmit to it the report of the Panel of Government Experts on verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification, and the intent of the Panel to produce a report that is forward-looking and discerning of new trends and requirements,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Panel of Government Experts on verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification,[45] transmitted by the Secretary-General on 15 August 2007, acknowledges that the report was unanimously approved by the Panel of Government Experts, and commends the report to the attention of Member States;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give the report the widest possible circulation;

3. *Encourages* Member States to consider the report, and invites Member States to offer additional views to the Secretary-General on the report;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a compilation of views received from Member States, relevant United Nations organs and international treaty organizations with respect to the report;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification".

RESOLUTION 62/22

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77)[46]

62/22. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/71 of 6 December 2006 on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them,

Deeply concerned by the magnitude of human casualty and suffering, especially among children, caused by the illicit proliferation and use of small arms and light weapons,

Concerned by the negative impact that the illicit proliferation and use of those weapons continue to have on the efforts of States in the Sahelo-Saharan subregion in the areas of poverty eradication, sustainable development and the maintenance of peace, security and stability,

Bearing in mind the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted at Bamako on 1 December 2000,[47]

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all",[48] in which he emphasized that States must strive just as hard to eliminate the threat of illicit small arms and light weapons as they do to eliminate the threat of weapons of mass destruction,

Taking note of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner,

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[43] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[44] A/45/372 and Corr.1 and A/50/377 and Corr.1.

[45] A/61/1028.

[46] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of West African States), Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[47] A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

[48] A/59/2005.

Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted on 8 December 2005,[49]

Welcoming the expression of support in the 2005 World Summit Outcome for the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[50]

Welcoming also the adoption, at the thirtieth ordinary summit of the Economic Community of West African States, held in Abuja in June 2006, of the Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials, in replacement of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

Welcoming further the decision taken by the Economic Community to establish a Small Arms Unit responsible for advocating appropriate policies and developing and implementing programmes, as well as the establishment of the Economic Community's Small Arms Control Programme, launched on 6 June 2006 in Bamako, in replacement of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development,

Taking note of the latest report of the Secretary-General on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,[51]

Welcoming, in that regard, the decision of the European Union to significantly support the Economic Community in its efforts to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing the important role that civil society organizations play, by raising public awareness, in efforts to curb the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 26 June to 7 July 2006,[52]

1. *Commends* the United Nations and international, regional and other organizations for their assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons and collecting them in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the African Union;

3. *Encourages* the international community to support the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;

4. *Encourages* the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion to facilitate the effective functioning of national commissions to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and, in that regard, invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible;

5. *Encourages* the collaboration of civil society organizations and associations in the efforts of the national commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[53]

6. *Also encourages* cooperation among State organs, international organizations and civil society in supporting programmes and projects aimed at combating the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to provide technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to take action to help to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General and those States and organizations that are in a position to do so to continue to provide assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them".

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[49] A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex; see also decision 60/519.

[50] See resolution 60/1, para. 94.

[51] A/62/162.

[52] A/CONF.192/2006/RC/9.

[53] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

RESOLUTION 62/23

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77)[54]

62/23. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 61/68 of 6 December 2006, adopted without a vote, in which it noted with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[55]

Determined to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that, since the adoption of resolution 61/68, one additional State has acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and eighty-two,

Reaffirming the importance of the outcome of the First Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, including the Political Declaration,[56] in which the States parties reaffirmed their commitment to achieving the objective and purpose of the Convention, and the final report,[57] which addressed all aspects of the Convention and made important recommendations on its continued implementation,

1. *Emphasizes* that the universality of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[55] is fundamental to the achievement of its objective and purpose, acknowledges progress made in the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. *Underlines* the fact that the Convention and its implementation contribute to enhancing international peace and security, and emphasizes that its full, universal and effective implementation will contribute further to that purpose by excluding completely, for the sake of all humankind, the possibility of the use of chemical weapons;

3. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

4. *Reaffirms* the obligation of the States parties to the Convention to destroy chemical weapons and to destroy or convert chemical weapons production facilities within the time limits provided for by the Convention;

5. *Stresses* that the full and effective implementation of all provisions of the Convention, including those on national implementation (article VII) and assistance and protection (article X), constitutes an important contribution to the efforts of the United Nations in the global fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

6. *Notes* that the effective application of the verification system builds confidence in compliance with the Convention by States parties;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

8. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

9. *Welcomes* progress made in the national implementation of article VII obligations, commends the States parties and the Technical Secretariat for assisting other States parties, on request, with the implementation of the follow-up to the plan of action regarding article VII obligations, and urges States parties that have not fulfilled their obligations under article VII to do so without further delay, in accordance with their constitutional processes;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of article XI provisions relating to the economic and technological development of States parties, recalls that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of those provisions contributes to universality, and also reaffirms the undertaking of the States parties to foster international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities of the States parties and the importance of that cooperation and its contribution to the promotion of the Convention as a whole;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure

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[54] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Poland.

[55] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[56] See Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, document RC-1/3.

[57] Ibid., document RC-1/5.

the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties, and also notes with appreciation the substantial contribution of the Technical Secretariat and the Director-General to the continued development and success of the Organization;

12. *Welcomes* the ongoing preparatory work by the States parties on the substance of the Second Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention;

13. *Also welcomes* all the national and international events conducted throughout 2007 devoted to the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention, in particular the unveiling in The Hague, on 9 May 2007, of the Permanent Memorial to All Victims of Chemical Weapons as testimony to the international community's commitment to peace and hope for the future;

14. *Notes with satisfaction* that the High-level Meeting on the Tenth Anniversary of the Entry into Force of the Convention, convened by Poland and the Netherlands at the United Nations in New York on 27 September 2007, provided a special occasion for the international community to remember all victims of chemical weapons and to reaffirm the commitment to multilateralism and to the object and purpose of the Convention;

15. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons within the framework of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 62/24

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[58] by a recorded vote of 109 to 55, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa

62/24. Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its various resolutions in the field of nuclear disarmament, including its most recent, resolutions 60/72 of 8 December 2005, and 61/78, 61/83 and 61/97 of 6 December 2006,

Bearing in mind its resolution 2373 (XXII) of 12 June 1968, the annex to which contains the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[59]

Noting the provisions of article VIII, paragraph 3, of the Treaty regarding the convening of review conferences at five-year intervals,

Recalling its resolution 50/70 Q of 12 December 1995, in which the General Assembly noted that the States parties to the Treaty affirmed the need to continue to move with determination towards the full realization and effective implementation of the provisions of the Treaty, and accordingly adopted a set of principles and objectives,

Recalling also that, on 11 May 1995, the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons adopted three decisions on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and extension of the Treaty,[60]

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[58] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[59] See also United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Reaffirming the resolution on the Middle East adopted on 11 May 1995 by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[60] in which the Conference reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and placement of nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Reaffirming also its resolution 55/33 D of 20 November 2000, in which the General Assembly welcomed the adoption by consensus on 19 May 2000 of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, [61] including, in particular, the documents entitled "Review of the operation of the Treaty, taking into account the decisions and the resolution adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference" and "Improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process for the Treaty",[62]

Taking into consideration the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty,

Gravely concerned over the failure of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty to reach any substantive agreement on the follow-up to the nuclear disarmament obligations,

Noting that the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty held a successful first meeting in Vienna in April/May 2007,

1. *Determines* to pursue practical steps for systematic and progressive efforts to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[59] and paragraphs 3 and 4 (c) of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[60]

2. *Calls for* practical steps, as agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be taken by all nuclear-weapon States that would lead to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes international stability and, based upon the principle of undiminished security for all, for:

(*a*) Further efforts to be made by the nuclear-weapon States to reduce their nuclear arsenals unilaterally;

(*b*) Increased transparency by the nuclear-weapon States with regard to nuclear weapons capabilities and the implementation of agreements pursuant to article VI of the Treaty and as a voluntary confidence-building measure to support further progress in nuclear disarmament;

(*c*) The further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

(*d*) Concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of nuclear weapons systems;

(*e*) A diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies so as to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

(*f*) The engagement, as soon as appropriate, of all the nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons;

3. *Notes* that the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty agreed that legally binding security assurances by the five nuclear-weapon States to the non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime;

4. *Urges* the States parties to the Treaty to follow up on the implementation of the nuclear disarmament obligations under the Treaty agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty within the framework of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty and its Preparatory Committee;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session an item entitled "Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons".

RESOLUTION 62/25

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[63] by a recorded vote of 156 to 5, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia,

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[60] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[61] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[62] Ibid., vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I.

[63] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica, Egypt, Guyana, Ireland, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa and Sweden.

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, India, Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Australia, Bhutan, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Pakistan, Palau, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/25. Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/65 of 6 December 2006,

Expressing its grave concern at the danger to humanity posed by the possibility that nuclear weapons could be used,

Reaffirming that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are mutually reinforcing processes requiring urgent irreversible progress on both fronts,

Recalling the decisions and the resolution on the Middle East of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[64] and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[65]

Recalling also the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[66]

Urging States parties to exert all possible efforts to ensure a successful and productive preparatory process for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,

1. *Welcomes* the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held in Vienna from 30 April to 11 May 2007, and looks forward to a constructive and successful preparatory process leading to the 2010 Review Conference which should contribute to strengthening the Treaty and achieving its full implementation and universality;

2. *Continues to emphasize* the central role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[66] and its universality in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and calls upon all States parties to respect their obligations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the outcome of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty sets out the agreed process for systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament;[65]

4. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate the implementation of the practical steps towards nuclear disarmament that were agreed upon at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty, thereby contributing to a safer world for all;

5. *Calls upon* all States to comply fully with all commitments made regarding nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation and not to act in any way that may compromise either cause or that may lead to a new nuclear arms race;

6. *Again calls upon* all States parties to spare no effort to achieve the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and urges India, Israel and Pakistan, which are not yet parties to the Treaty, to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without conditions;

7. *Urges* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to rescind its announced withdrawal from the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

8. *Recognizes* the vital importance of the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[67] to the achievement of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-

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[64] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[65] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[66] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[67] See resolution 50/245.

proliferation, and takes note of the Final Declaration and Measures to promote its entry into force, adopted by consensus at the Fifth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in Vienna on 17 and 18 September 2007;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments" and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

RESOLUTION 62/26

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77)[68]

62/26. National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recalling that effective national control of the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, including those transfers that could contribute to proliferation activities, is an important tool for achieving those objectives,

Recalling also that the States parties to the international disarmament and non-proliferation treaties have undertaken to facilitate the fullest possible exchange of materials, equipment and technological information for peaceful purposes, in accordance with the provisions of those treaties,

Considering that the exchange of national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

Convinced that such an exchange would be beneficial to Member States that are in the process of developing such legislation,

Welcoming the electronic database established by the Office for Disarmament Affairs,[69] in which all information exchanged pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 57/66 of 22 November 2002, 58/42 of 8 December 2003, 59/66 of 3 December 2004 and 60/69 of 3 December 2005, entitled "National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology", can be consulted,

Reaffirming the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Invites* Member States that are in a position to do so, without prejudice to the provisions contained in Security Council resolutions 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and 1673 (2006) of 27 April 2006, to enact or improve national legislation, regulations and procedures to exercise effective control over the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, while ensuring that such legislation, regulations and procedures are consistent with the obligations of States parties under international treaties;

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on their national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, as well as the changes therein, and requests the Secretary-General to make that information accessible to Member States;

3. *Decides* to remain attentive to the matter.

RESOLUTION 62/27

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[70] by a recorded vote of 123 to 6, with 51 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

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[68] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Netherlands.

[69] Available at http://disarmament.un.org/cab/NLDU%202007/nlduindex.html.

[70] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine

62/27. Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

The General Assembly,

Determined to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 56/24 T of 29 November 2001 on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and other relevant resolutions, as well as its resolutions 57/63 of 22 November 2002, 58/44 of 8 December 2003, 59/69 of 3 December 2004, 60/59 of 8 December 2005 and 61/62 of 6 December 2006 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

Recalling also the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and, to that end, to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the Charter,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[71] which states, inter alia, that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

Convinced that, in the globalization era and with the information revolution, arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament problems are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected in one way or another by these problems and, therefore, should have the possibility to participate in the negotiations that arise to tackle them,

Bearing in mind the existence of a broad structure of disarmament and arms regulation agreements resulting from non-discriminatory and transparent multilateral negotiations with the participation of a large number of countries, regardless of their size and power,

Aware of the need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory and transparent negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

Recognizing also that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

Considering that the multilateral disarmament agreements provide the mechanism for States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of, the provisions of the agreements and that such consultations and cooperation may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter,

Stressing that international cooperation, the peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would contribute essentially to the creation of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

Being concerned at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that a resort to unilateral actions by Member States in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

Noting that the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006, welcomed the adoption of General Assembly resolution 60/59, and underlined the fact that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues,

Reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope;

2. *Also reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in resolving disarmament and non-proliferation concerns;

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[71] See resolution 55/2.

3. *Urges* the participation of all interested States in multilateral negotiations on arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner;

4. *Underlines* the importance of preserving the existing agreements on arms regulation and disarmament, which constitute an expression of the results of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations in response to the challenges facing mankind;

5. *Calls once again upon* all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on implementation, in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments, and to refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another to resolve their concerns;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies of Member States on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, submitted pursuant to resolution 61/62;[72]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation".

RESOLUTION 62/28

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[73] by a recorded vote of 175 to 1, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Israel, Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/28. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999, 55/33 K of 20 November 2000, 56/24 F of 29 November 2001, 57/64 of 22 November 2002, 58/45 of 8 December 2003, 59/68 of 3 December 2004, 60/60 of 8 December 2005 and 61/63 of 6 December 2006,

Emphasizing the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

Recognizing that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 61/63,[74]

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[72] A/62/133.

[73] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[74] A/62/134.

Mindful of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;[74]

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

RESOLUTION 62/29

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[75] by a recorded vote of 179 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Nauru

62/29. Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 I of 15 December 1994, 50/70 F of 12 December 1995, 51/45 C of 10 December 1996, 52/38 F of 9 December 1997, 53/77 AA of 4 December 1998, 54/54 U of 1 December 1999, 55/33 M of 20 November 2000, 56/24 D of 29 November 2001, 57/61 of 22 November 2002, 59/71 of 3 December 2004 and 61/60 of 6 December 2006, as well as its decisions 58/521 of 8 December 2003, 60/518 of 8 December 2005 and 60/559 of 6 June 2006,

Recalling also that, there being a consensus to do so in each case, three special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament were held in 1978, 1982 and 1988, respectively,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, adopted by consensus at the first special session devoted to disarmament,[76]

Bearing in mind also the ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Taking note of paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,[77] which supported the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the process of disarmament and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favour of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons,

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[75] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[76] Resolution S-10/2.

[77] A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the Heads of State and Government during the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, held in New York from 6 to 8 September 2000,[78] in which the Heads of State and Government resolved "to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers",

Reiterating its conviction that a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament can set the future course of action in the fields of disarmament, arms control, non-proliferation and related international security matters,

Emphasizing the importance of multilateralism in the process of disarmament, arms control, non-proliferation and related international security matters,

Taking note of the paper presented by the Chairman of Working Group II during the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission,[79] and the written proposals and views submitted by Member States as contained in the working papers presented during the three substantive sessions of the Open-ended Working Group in 2003[80] as well as the reports of the Secretary-General regarding the views of Member States on the objectives, agenda and timing of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,[81]

Taking note also of the reports of the Open-ended Working Group to consider the objectives and agenda, including the possible establishment of the preparatory committee, for the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,[82]

1. *Decides* to convene the Open-ended Working Group, working on the basis of consensus, to consider the objectives and agenda, including the possible establishment of the preparatory committee, for the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

2. *Also decides* that the Open-ended Working Group shall hold its organizational session as soon as possible for the purpose of setting a date for its substantive sessions in 2008, and submit a report on its work, including possible substantive recommendations, before the end of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to provide the Open-ended Working Group with the necessary assistance and services as may be required to discharge its tasks;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament".

RESOLUTION 62/30

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[83] by a recorded vote of 136 to 5, with 36 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Czech Republic, Israel, Netherlands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine

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[78] See resolution 55/2.

[79] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex II.

[80] See A/AC.268/2003/WP.2.

[81] A/55/130 and Add.1, A/56/166 and A/57/120.

[82] A/57/848 and A/AC.268/2007/2.

[83] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

62/30. Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of humanitarian international law,

Determined to promote multilateralism as an essential means to carry forward negotiations on arms regulation and disarmament,

Convinced that as humankind is more aware of the need to take immediate measures to protect the environment, any event that could jeopardize such efforts requires urgent attention to implement the required measures,

Taking into consideration the potential harmful effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States and relevant international organizations on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium, and to submit a report on this subject to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session an item entitled "Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium".

RESOLUTION 62/31

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[84] by a recorded vote of 174 to 1, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: France, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/31. Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/56 of 8 December 2005, entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments", and its resolution 61/69 of 6 December 2006, entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas",

Welcoming the desire of the South-East Asian States to maintain peace and stability in the region in the spirit of peaceful coexistence and mutual understanding and cooperation,

Reaffirming its conviction of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calling upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons,

Convinced that the establishment of a South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone, as an essential component of the Declaration on the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality, signed in Kuala Lumpur on 27 November 1971, will contribute towards strengthening the security of States within the Zone and towards enhancing international peace and security as a whole,

Noting the entry into force of the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone on 27 March 1997[85] and the tenth anniversary of its entry into force in 2007,

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[84] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, Egypt, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

[85] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

Welcoming the reaffirmation of South-East Asian States that the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone shall continue to play a pivotal role in the area of confidence-building measures, preventive diplomacy and the approaches to conflict resolution as enshrined in the Declaration of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Concord II (Bali Concord II),[86]

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all the parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[87]

Recognizing that by signing and ratifying the relevant protocols to the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, nuclear-weapon States undertake legally binding commitments to respect the status of such zones and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against States parties to such treaties,

Recalling the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of innocent passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage or transit passage of ships and aircraft, particularly those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[88]

1. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Commission for the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone to further enhance and strengthen the implementation of the Bangkok Treaty[85] by adopting a Plan of Action for the period 2007–2012 in Manila on 29 July 2007;

2. *Encourages* States parties to the Treaty to work towards resuming direct consultations with the five nuclear-weapon States to resolve comprehensively, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty, existing outstanding issues on a number of provisions of the Treaty and the Protocol thereto;

3. *Encourages* nuclear-weapon States and States parties to the Treaty to continue to work constructively with a view to ensuring the early accession of the nuclear-weapon States to the Protocol to the Treaty;

4. *Underlines* the value of enhancing and implementing further ways and means of cooperation among nuclear-weapon-free zones;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session an item entitled "Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)".

RESOLUTION 62/32

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[89] by a recorded vote of 117 to 52, with 12 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

62/32. Reducing nuclear danger

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Reaffirming that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[86] A/58/548, annex I.

[87] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[88] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[89] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Botswana, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Jordan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Samoa, Viet Nam and Zambia.

Convinced that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

Convinced also that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Considering that, until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering also that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all mankind,

Emphasizing the need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomaly or other technical malfunctions,

Conscious that limited steps relating to de-alerting and de-targeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful that a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in the security policies of nuclear-weapon States would positively impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[90] and by the international community,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*[91] that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Recalling also the call in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[92] to seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction and the resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

1. *Calls for* a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons, including through de-alerting and de-targeting of nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to take measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 above;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 61/85 of 6 December 2006;[93]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts and support initiatives that would contribute towards the full implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war,[94] and also to continue to encourage Member States to consider the convening of an international conference as proposed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[92] to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Reducing nuclear danger".

RESOLUTION 62/33

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77)[95]

62/33. Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/86 of 6 December 2006,

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[90] Resolution S-10/2.

[91] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[92] See resolution 55/2.

[93] A/62/165 and Add.1.

[94] See A/56/400, para. 3.

[95] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mauritius, Monaco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, United States of America and Zambia.

Recognizing the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

Deeply concerned by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

Cognizant of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 28 April 2004,

Welcoming the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[96]

Welcoming also the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material[97] by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005,

Noting the support expressed in the Final Document of the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,[98] for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,

Noting also that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the likely acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction, and the need for international cooperation in combating it,

Acknowledging the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,[99]

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-first regular session,[100]

Taking note also of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted on 16 September 2005 at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly[101] and the adoption on 8 September 2006 of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[102]

Taking note further of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 5 of resolution 61/86,[103]

Mindful of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this threat to humanity,

Emphasizing that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Appeals* to Member States to consider early accession to and ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;[96]

3. *Urges* all Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture, and invites them to inform the Secretary-General, on a voluntary basis, of the measures taken in this regard;

4. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction".

RESOLUTION 62/34

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77)[104]

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[96] Resolution 59/290, annex.

[97] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[98] A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

[99] See A/59/361.

[100] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-first Regular Session, 17–21 September 2007* (GC(51)/RES/DEC(2007)).

[101] See resolution 60/1.

[102] Resolution 60/288.

[103] A/62/156.

[104] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Dominican Republic, and Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

62/34. Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind resolutions CM/Res.1153 (XLVIII) of 1988[105] and CM/Res.1225 (L) of 1989,[106] adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, concerning the dumping of nuclear and industrial wastes in Africa,

Welcoming resolution GC(XXXIV)/RES/530 establishing a Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste, adopted on 21 September 1990 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its thirty-fourth regular session,[107]

Taking note of the commitment by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security, held in Moscow on 19 and 20 April 1996, to ban the dumping at sea of radioactive wastes,[108]

Considering its resolution 2602 C (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it requested the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament,[109] inter alia, to consider effective methods of control against the use of radiological methods of warfare,

Aware of the potential hazards underlying any use of radioactive wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and its implications for regional and international security, in particular for the security of developing countries,

Recalling all its resolutions on the matter since its forty-third session in 1988, including its resolution 51/45 J of 10 December 1996,

Also recalling resolution GC(45)/RES/10 adopted by consensus on 21 September 2001 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-fifth regular session,[110] in which States shipping radioactive materials are invited to provide, as appropriate, assurances to concerned States, upon their request, that the national regulations of the shipping State take into account the Agency's transport regulations and to provide them with relevant information relating to the shipment of such materials; the information provided should in no case be contradictory to the measures of physical security and safety,

Welcoming the adoption at Vienna, on 5 September 1997, of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management,[111] as recommended by the participants in the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security,

Noting with satisfaction that the Joint Convention entered into force on 18 June 2001,

Noting that the first Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management was convened in Vienna from 3 to 14 November 2003,

Desirous of promoting the implementation of paragraph 76 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[112] the first special session devoted to disarmament,

1. *Takes note* of the part of the report of the Conference on Disarmament relating to a future convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons;[113]

2. *Expresses grave concern* regarding any use of nuclear wastes that would constitute radiological warfare and have grave implications for the national security of all States;

3. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate measures with a view to preventing any dumping of nuclear or radioactive wastes that would infringe upon the sovereignty of States;

4. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to take into account, in the negotiations for a convention on the prohibition of radiological weapons, radioactive wastes as part of the scope of such a convention;

5. *Also requests* the Conference on Disarmament to intensify efforts towards an early conclusion of such a convention and to include in its report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session the progress recorded in the negotiations on this subject;

6. *Takes note* of resolution CM/Res.1356 (LIV) of 1991, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity,[114] on the Bamako Convention on the Ban on the Import of Hazardous Wastes into Africa and on the Control of Their Transboundary Movements within Africa;

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[105] See A/43/398, annex I.

[106] See A/44/603, annex I.

[107] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Thirty-fourth Regular Session, 17–21 September 1990* (GC(XXXIV)/RESOLUTIONS (1990)).

[108] A/51/131, annex I, para. 20.

[109] The Conference of the Committee on Disarmament became the Committee on Disarmament as from the tenth special session of the General Assembly. The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[110] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fifth Regular Session, 17–21 September 2001* (GC(45)/RES/DEC(2001)).

[111] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2153, No. 37605.

[112] Resolution S-10/2.

[113] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/54/27), chap. III, sect. E.

[114] See A/46/390, annex I.

7. *Expresses the hope* that the effective implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste will enhance the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories;

8. *Appeals* to all Member States that have not yet taken the necessary steps to become party to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[111] to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes".

RESOLUTION 62/35

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[115] by a recorded vote of 169 to 3, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Bhutan, India, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Pakistan, Palau, Russian Federation

62/35. Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 B of 10 December 1996, 52/38 N of 9 December 1997, 53/77 Q of 4 December 1998, 54/54 L of 1 December 1999, 55/33 I of 20 November 2000, 56/24 G of 29 November 2001, 57/73 of 22 November 2002, 58/49 of 8 December 2003, 59/85 of 3 December 2004, 60/58 of 8 December 2005 and 61/69 of 6 December 2006,

Recalling also the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of a text entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned",[116]

Determined to pursue the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Determined also to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[117] the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Stressing the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[118] Rarotonga,[119] Bangkok[120] and Pelindaba[121] establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[122] to, inter alia, achieve a world entirely free of nuclear weapons,

Underlining the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties,

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[115] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Liberia, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[116] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

[117] Resolution S-10/2.

[118] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[119] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[120] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[121] A/50/426, annex.

[122] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

Noting the adoption of the Declaration of Santiago de Chile by the Governments of the States members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and the States parties to the Treaty of Tlatelolco, during the nineteenth regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, held in Santiago on 7 and 8 November 2005,[123]

Recalling the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of passage through maritime space, including those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[124]

1. *Welcomes* the continued contribution that the Antarctic Treaty[122] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[118] Rarotonga,[119] Bangkok[120] and Pelindaba[121] are making towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

2. *Also welcomes* the ratification by all original parties of the Treaty of Rarotonga, and calls upon eligible States to adhere to the Treaty and the protocols thereto;

3. *Further welcomes* the efforts towards the completion of the ratification process of the Treaty of Pelindaba, and calls upon the States of the region that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty, with the aim of its early entry into force;

4. *Welcomes* the signing of the Semipalatinsk Treaty on 8 September 2006,[125] and urges all relevant States to cooperate in resolving outstanding issues with a view to the full implementation of the Treaty;

5. *Calls upon* all concerned States to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet adhered to them;

6. *Welcomes* the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in its resolutions on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East and South Asia;

7. *Affirms its conviction* of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calls upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

8. *Welcomes* the progress made on increased collaboration within and between zones at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005, at which States reaffirmed their need to cooperate in order to achieve their common objectives;

9. *Congratulates* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, as well as Mongolia, for their efforts to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, and calls upon them to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

10. *Encourages* the competent authorities of the nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to those treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of the goals;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

RESOLUTION 62/36

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[126] by a recorded vote of 139 to 3, with 36 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain,

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[123] See A/60/678.

[124] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[125] Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia.

[126] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Austria, Benin, Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste and Uruguay.

Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Palau, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine

62/36. Decreasing the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the maintenance of nuclear weapons on high alert was a feature of cold war nuclear postures, and welcoming the increased confidence and transparency since the cessation of the cold war,

Concerned that, notwithstanding the end of the cold war, several thousand nuclear weapons remain on high alert, ready to be launched within minutes,

Noting the increased engagement in multilateral disarmament forums in support of further reductions to the operational status of nuclear weapons systems,

Recognizing that the maintenance of nuclear weapons systems at a high level of readiness increases the risk of the use of such weapons, including the unintentional or accidental use, which would have catastrophic consequences,

Also recognizing that reductions in deployments and the lowering of operational status contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as to the process of nuclear disarmament, through the enhancement of confidence-building and transparency measures and a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies,

Welcoming bilateral initiatives, such as the proposed United States/Russian Federation Joint Centre for the Exchange of Data from Early Warning Systems and Notification of Missile Launches, which can play a central role in operational status reduction processes,

Also welcoming the steps taken by some States to reduce the operational status of their nuclear weapons systems, including de-targeting initiatives and increasing the amount of preparation time required for deployment,

1. *Calls for* further practical steps to be taken to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems, with a view to ensuring that all nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status;

2. *Urges* States to update the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

3. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

RESOLUTION 62/37

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[127] by a recorded vote of 170 to 3, with 9 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, United States of America

Abstaining: Bhutan, China, Cuba, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan

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[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Iceland, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Montenegro, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Serbia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay.

62/37. Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling the need for all States to take further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving a peaceful and safe world free of nuclear weapons, and renewing the determination to do so,

Noting that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling its resolution 61/74 of 6 December 2006,

Convinced that every effort should be made to avoid nuclear war and nuclear terrorism,

Reaffirming the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[128] as the cornerstone of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime, and expressing regret over the lack of agreement on substantive issues at the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as well as over the elimination of references to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in the World Summit Outcome in 2005,[129] the year of the sixtieth anniversary of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan,

Recalling the decisions and the resolution of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[130] and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[131]

Recognizing that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament are mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation and thereby ensuring international peace and security,

Expressing deep concern regarding the growing dangers posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, inter alia, nuclear weapons, including that caused by proliferation networks,

Recognizing the importance of implementing Security Council resolution 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006 with regard to the nuclear test proclaimed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 9 October 2006, while welcoming the recent progress achieved by the Six-Party Talks,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[128] complying with their obligations under all the articles of the Treaty;

2. *Stresses* the importance of an effective Treaty review process, welcoming a successful start of the 2010 review process with the first session of the Preparatory Committee in 2007, and calls upon all States parties to the Treaty to work together to ensure that the second session of the Preparatory Committee, in 2008, is held constructively, in order to facilitate the successful outcome of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the universality of the Treaty, and calls upon States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States without delay and without conditions, and pending their accession to refrain from acts that would defeat the objective and purpose of the Treaty as well as to take practical steps in support of the Treaty;

4. *Encourages* further steps leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty, including deeper reductions in all types of nuclear weapons, and emphasizes the importance of applying irreversibility and verifiability, as well as increased transparency in a way that promotes international stability and undiminished security for all, in the process of working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons;

5. *Encourages* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to implement fully the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions,[132] which should serve as a step for further nuclear disarmament, and to undertake nuclear arms reductions beyond those provided for by the Treaty, while welcoming the progress made by nuclear-weapon States, including the Russian Federation and the United States of America, on nuclear arms reductions;

6. *Encourages* States to continue to pursue efforts, within the framework of international cooperation, contributing to the reduction of nuclear-weapons-related materials;

7. *Calls for* the nuclear-weapon States to further reduce the operational status of nuclear weapons systems in ways that promote international stability and security;

8. *Stresses* the necessity of a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies to minimize the risk that these

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[128] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[129] See resolution 60/1.

[130] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[131] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[132] See CD/1674.

weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination, in a way that promotes international stability and based on the principle of undiminished security for all;

9. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[133] at the earliest opportunity with a view to its early entry into force, stresses the importance of maintaining existing moratoriums on nuclear-weapon test explosions pending the entry into force of the Treaty, and reaffirms the importance of the continued development of the Treaty verification regime, including the international monitoring system, which will be required to provide assurance of compliance with the Treaty;

10. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to immediately resume its substantive work to its fullest, considering the developments of this year in the Conference;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of the immediate commencement of negotiations on a fissile material cut-off treaty and its early conclusion, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States and States not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to declare moratoriums on the production of fissile material for any nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices pending the entry into force of the Treaty;

12. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

13. *Stresses* the importance of further efforts for non-proliferation, including the universalization of the International Atomic Energy Agency comprehensive safeguards agreements and Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency on 15 May 1997[134] and the full implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions including resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004;

14. *Encourages* all States to undertake concrete activities to implement, as appropriate, the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session,[135] and to voluntarily share information on efforts they have been undertaking to that end;

15. *Encourages* the constructive role played by civil society in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament.

RESOLUTION 62/38

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77)[136]

62/38. Regional disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 N of 1 December 1999, 55/33 O of 20 November 2000, 56/24 H of 29 November 2001, 57/76 of 22 November 2002, 58/38 of 8 December 2003, 59/89 of 3 December 2004, 60/63 of 8 December 2005 and 61/80 of 6 December 2006 on regional disarmament,

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[137]

Taking note of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[138]

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

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[133] See resolution 50/245.

[134] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/540 (Corrected).

[135] A/57/124.

[136] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Liberia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Turkey.

[137] See resolution S-10/2.

[138] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

RESOLUTION 62/39

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[139] by a recorded vote of 127 to 27, with 27 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Montenegro, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

62/39. Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999, 55/33 X of 20 November 2000, 56/24 S of 29 November 2001, 57/85 of 22 November 2002, 58/46 of 8 December 2003, 59/83 of 3 December 2004, 60/76 of 8 December 2005 and 61/83 of 6 December 2006,

Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to all humanity and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[140] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

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[139] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Benin, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

[140] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[141]

Emphasizing the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, adopted at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[142]

Recalling the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty[143] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[144] Rarotonga,[145] Bangkok,[146] Pelindaba[147] and Semipalatinsk,[148] as well as Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Stressing the importance of strengthening all existing nuclear-related disarmament and arms control and reduction measures,

Recognizing the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and regretting the lack of progress in disarmament negotiations, particularly nuclear disarmament, in the Conference during its 2007 session,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Expressing its regret over the failure of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to reach agreement on any substantive issues,

Expressing its deep concern at the lack of progress in the implementation of the thirteen steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[149]

Desiring to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[150]

Taking note of the relevant portions of the report of the Secretary-General relating to the implementation of resolution 61/83,[151]

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its sixty-third session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*".

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[141] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[142] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15:6.

[143] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[144] Ibid., vol. 634, No. 9068.

[145] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[146] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[147] A/50/426, annex.

[148] Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia.

[149] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[150] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[151] A/62/165 and Add.1.

RESOLUTION 62/40

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77)[152]

62/40. Prevention of the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of man-portable air defence systems

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/42 and 58/54 of 8 December 2003, 58/241 of 23 December 2003, 59/90 of 3 December 2004, 60/77 of 8 December 2005 and 60/288 of 8 September 2006, and its decision 60/519 of 8 December 2005,

Recognizing that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Acknowledging the authorized trade in man-portable air defence systems between Governments,

Acknowledging also the legitimate right of Governments to manufacture, import, export, transfer and possess man-portable air defence systems in the interests of their national security and self-defence,

Recognizing the threat to civil aviation, peacekeeping, crisis management and security posed by the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of man-portable air defence systems,

Taking into account the fact that man-portable air defence systems are easily carried, concealed, fired and, in certain circumstances, obtained,

Recognizing that effective control over man-portable air defence systems acquires special importance in the context of the intensified international fight against global terrorism,

Convinced of the importance of effective national control of transfers of man-portable air defence systems and their training and instruction materials and of the safe and effective management of stockpiles of such weapons,

Acknowledging the role of the unauthorized transfer of relevant materials and information in assisting the illicit manufacture and illicit transfer of man-portable air defence systems and related components,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of, and noting declarations by, various international and regional forums to enhance transport security and to strengthen management of man-portable air defence systems stockpiles in order to prevent the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of such weapons,

Noting the importance of information exchange and transparency in the trade in man-portable air defence systems to build confidence and security among States and to prevent the illicit trade in and unauthorized access to such weapons,

Acknowledging the considerable efforts of some Member States to collect, secure and destroy voluntarily those man-portable air defence systems declared to be surplus by the competent national authority,

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[153]

2. *Urges* Member States to support current international, regional and national efforts to combat and prevent the illicit transfer of man-portable air defence systems and unauthorized access to and use of such weapons;

3. *Stresses* the importance of effective and comprehensive national controls on the production, stockpiling, transfer and brokering of man-portable air defence systems to prevent the illicit trade in and unauthorized access to and use of such weapons, their components and training and instruction materials;

4. *Encourages* Member States to enact or improve legislation, regulations, procedures and stockpile management practices and to assist other States, at their request, to exercise effective control over access to and transfer of man-portable air defence systems so as to prevent the illicit brokering and transfer of and unauthorized access to and use of such weapons;

5. *Also encourages* Member States, in accordance with their legal and constitutional processes, to enact or improve legislation, regulations and procedures to ban the transfer of man-portable air defence systems to non-State end-users and to ensure that such weapons are exported only to Governments or agents authorized by a Government;

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[152] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[153] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

6. *Encourages* initiatives to exchange information and to mobilize resources and technical expertise to assist States, at their request, in enhancing national controls and stockpile management practices to prevent unauthorized access to and use and transfer of man-portable air defence systems and to destroy excess or obsolete stockpiles of such weapons, as appropriate;

7. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

RESOLUTION 62/41

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[154] by a recorded vote of 164 to none, with 18 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

62/41. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/54 B of 1 December 1999, 55/33 V of 20 November 2000, 56/24 M of 29 November 2001, 57/74 of 22 November 2002, 58/53 of 8 December 2003, 59/84 of 3 December 2004, 60/80 of 8 December 2005 and 61/84 of 6 December 2006,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians, including children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do the utmost in ensuring assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

Recalling that 2007 marks the tenth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[155] and welcoming its entry into force on 1 March 1999,

Noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention and the substantial progress made towards ending, for all people and for all time, the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines, as well as regular reporting of this progress,

Recalling the first to seventh meetings of the States parties to the Convention held in Maputo (1999),[156] Geneva (2000),[157] Managua (2001),[158] Geneva (2002),[159] Bangkok (2003),[160] Zagreb (2005)[161] and Geneva (2006),[162] and the First Review

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[154] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Croatia and Jordan.

[155] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

[156] See APLC/MSP.1/1999/1.

[157] See APLC/MSP.2/2000/1.

[158] See APLC/MSP.3/2001/1.

[159] See APLC/MSP.4/2002/1.

[160] See APLC/MSP.5/2003/5.

[161] See APLC/MSP.6/2005/5.

[162] See APLC/MSP.7/2006/5.

Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Nairobi (2004),[163]

Noting with satisfaction that additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States that have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention to one hundred and fifty-five,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization,

Noting with regret that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[155] to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* all States that have signed but have not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the continued implementation of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005–2009;[164]

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

6. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine risk education programmes and the removal and destruction of anti-personnel mines placed or stockpiled throughout the world;

7. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral contacts, outreach, seminars and other means;

8. *Reiterates its invitation and encouragement* to all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the eighth meeting of the States parties to the Convention, to be held in Jordan from 18 to 22 November 2007, and in the intersessional work programme established at the first meeting of the States parties and further developed at subsequent meetings of the States parties;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the next meeting of the States parties and, pending a decision to be taken at the eighth meeting of States parties, and on behalf of the States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the ninth meeting of the States parties as observers;

10. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

RESOLUTION 62/42

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[165] by a recorded vote of 117 to 47, with 17 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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[163] See APLC/CONF/2004/5 and Corr.1.

[164] Ibid., part III.

[165] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Congo, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, India, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Mauritius, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sweden, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

62/42. Nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999, 55/33 T of 20 November 2000, 56/24 R of 29 November 2001, 57/79 of 22 November 2002, 58/56 of 8 December 2003, 59/77 of 3 December 2004, 60/70 of 8 December 2005 and 61/78 of 6 December 2006 on nuclear disarmament,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972 [166] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993[167] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

Recognizing that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons, and stressing the need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving this goal,

Bearing in mind paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[168] the first special session devoted to disarmament, calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems, and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

Reaffirming the conviction of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[169] that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament and the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the decision on the extension of the Treaty and the resolution on the Middle East, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[170]

Stressing the importance of the thirteen steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as agreed to by the States parties in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[171]

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

Reiterating its call for an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[172]

Noting with appreciation the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I), [173] to which Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America are States parties,

Noting with appreciation also the entry into force of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty") between the United States of America and the Russian Federation [174] as a significant step towards reducing their deployed strategic nuclear weapons, while calling for further irreversible deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals,

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[166] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

[167] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[168] Resolution S-10/2.

[169] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[170] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[171] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[172] See resolution 50/245.

[173] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

[174] See CD/1674.

Noting with appreciation further the unilateral measures taken by the nuclear-weapon States for nuclear arms limitation, and encouraging them to take further such measures, while reiterating deep concern over the slow pace of progress towards nuclear disarmament and the lack of progress by the nuclear-weapon States towards accomplishing the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[175] and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Mindful of paragraph 64 of the Final Document of the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Putrajaya, Malaysia, on 29 and 30 May 2006,[176]

Recalling paragraph 70 and other relevant recommendations in the Final Document of the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,[177] calling upon the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament and to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified time framework,

Reaffirming the specific mandate conferred upon the Disarmament Commission by the General Assembly, in its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, to discuss the subject of nuclear disarmament as one of its main substantive agenda items,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[178] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

Seized of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Recognizes* that the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures with a view to achieving the elimination of these weapons;

2. *Reaffirms* that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are substantively interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the two processes must go hand in hand and that there is a genuine need for a systematic and progressive process of nuclear disarmament;

3. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts to establish new nuclear-weapon-free zones in different parts of the world on the basis of agreements or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned, which is an effective measure for limiting the further spread of nuclear weapons geographically and contributes to the cause of nuclear disarmament;

4. *Recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

5. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

6. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to achieving the total elimination of these weapons;

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[175] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[176] A/60/1002-S/2006/718, annex I.

[177] A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

[178] See resolution 55/2.

8. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;

9. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

10. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principle of irreversibility to the process of nuclear disarmament, and nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

11. *Underscores* the importance of the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[179] and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;[180]

12. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the thirteen steps for nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference;[171]

13. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

14. *Calls for* the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[181] and the mandate contained therein;

15. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty with a view to their conclusion within five years;

16. *Calls for* the conclusion of an international legal instrument or instruments on adequate security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States;

17. *Also calls for* the early entry into force and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[172]

18. *Expresses its regret* that the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was unable to achieve any substantive result and that the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted by the General Assembly[182] failed to make any reference to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation;

19. *Also expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament early in 2007, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/78;

20. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament early in 2008 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the eventual total elimination of nuclear weapons;

21. *Calls for* the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects at an early date to identify and deal with concrete measures of nuclear disarmament;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

RESOLUTION 62/43

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[183] by a recorded vote of 179 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia,

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[179] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15:6.

[180] Ibid., section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 2.

[181] CD/1299.

[182] See resolution 60/1.

[183] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Israel

62/43. Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/66 of 8 December 2005 and 61/75 of 6 December 2006,

Reaffirming that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger to international peace and security,

Conscious that further measures should be examined in the search for agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, including resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, which, inter alia, emphasize the need for increased transparency and confirm the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 1993 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,[184]

Noting the constructive debate which the Conference on Disarmament held on this subject in 2007,

Noting also the contribution of Member States which have submitted to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 61/75,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing concrete proposals from Member States on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures;[185]

2. *Invites* all Member States to continue to submit to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation and the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report with an annex containing concrete proposals from Member States on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities".

RESOLUTION 62/44

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[186] by a recorded vote of 177 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova,

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[184] A/48/305 and Corr.1.

[185] A/62/114 and Add.1.

[186] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Belarus, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Liberia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine.

Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: India

Abstaining: Bhutan

62/44. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999, 55/33 P of 20 November 2000, 56/24 I of 29 November 2001, 57/77 of 22 November 2002, 58/39 of 8 December 2003, 59/88 of 3 December 2004, 60/75 of 8 December 2005 and 61/82 of 6 December 2006,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Noting with particular interest the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[187] which is a cornerstone of European security,

Believing that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

RESOLUTION 62/45

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77)[188]

62/45. Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 58/43 of 8 December 2003, 59/87 of 3 December 2004, 60/64 of 8 December 2005 and 61/81 of 6 December 2006,

Recalling also its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 entitled "Prevention of armed conflict", in which it calls upon Member States to settle their disputes by peaceful means, as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter, inter alia, by any procedures adopted by the parties,

Recalling further the resolutions and guidelines adopted by consensus by the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission relating to confidence-building measures and their implantation at the global, regional and subregional levels,

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[187] CD/1064.

[188] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Colombia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic and Ukraine.

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the agreement of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability,

Convinced that resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Recognizing the need for meaningful dialogue among States concerned to avert conflict,

Welcoming the peace processes already initiated by States concerned to resolve their disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation, inter alia, by third parties, regional organizations or the United Nations,

Recognizing that States in some regions have already taken steps towards confidence-building measures at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament, and noting that such confidence-building measures have improved peace and security in those regions and contributed to progress in the socio-economic conditions of their people,

Concerned that the continuation of disputes among States, particularly in the absence of an effective mechanism to resolve them through peaceful means, may contribute to the arms race and endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and the efforts of the international community to promote arms control and disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, which provides for a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means chosen by the parties;

3. *Reaffirms* the ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1993 session;[189]

4. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue these ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions that may hinder or impair such a dialogue;

5. *Urges* States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party;

6. *Emphasizes* that the objective of confidence-building measures should be to help strengthen international peace and security and be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments;

7. *Encourages* the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context".

RESOLUTION 62/46

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77)[190]

62/46. Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the essential contribution of radioactive materials and sources to social and economic development, and the benefits drawn from their use for all States,

Recognizing also the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evident in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

Deeply concerned by the threat of terrorism and the risk that terrorists may acquire, traffic in or use radioactive materials or sources in radiological dispersion devices,

Recalling the importance of international conventions aimed at preventing and suppressing such a risk, in particular the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of

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[189] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II, sect. III.A.

[190] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Nuclear Terrorism, adopted on 13 April 2005,[191] and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted on 26 October 1979,[192] as well as its Amendment, adopted on 8 July 2005,

Noting that actions of the international community to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and prevent access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and related material, notably Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004, constitute contributions to the protection against nuclear and radiological terrorism,

Stressing the importance of the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in promoting and reinforcing the safety and security of radioactive materials and sources, in particular by supporting the improvement of national legal and regulatory infrastructure and by establishing technical guidance,

Taking note of the importance of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[193] with respect to the safety of the end of life of radioactive sources,

Taking note also of the importance of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources[194] as a valuable instrument for enhancing the safety and security of radioactive sources, while recognizing that the Code is not a legally binding instrument, and of the International Atomic Energy Agency Revised Action Plan for the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources[195] and its Nuclear Security Plan for 2006–2009,[196]

Taking note further of resolutions GC(51)/RES/11 and GC(51)/RES/12, adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-first regular session, which address measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and transport safety and waste management and measures to protect against nuclear and radiological terrorism,[197]

Welcoming the ongoing individual and collective efforts of Member States to take into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the lack or insufficiency of control over radioactive materials and sources, and recognizing the need for States to take more effective measures to strengthen those controls in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law,

Welcoming also the fact that Member States have taken multilateral actions to address this issue, as reflected in General Assembly resolution 61/8 of 30 October 2006,

Welcoming further the contribution of the International Atomic Energy Agency International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources: Towards a Global System for the Continuous Control of Sources throughout Their Life Cycle, held in Bordeaux, France, from 27 June to 1 July 2005, to the activities of the Agency on these issues,

Mindful of the responsibilities of every Member State, in accordance with international obligations, to maintain effective nuclear safety and security, asserting that responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State, and noting the important contribution of international cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfil their responsibilities,

Mindful also of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this rising concern for international security,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to support international efforts to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources, and, if necessary, suppress such acts, in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law;

2. *Urges* Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources, as well as terrorist attacks on nuclear plants and facilities which would result in radioactive releases, and, if necessary, suppress such acts, in particular by taking effective measures to account for, secure and physically protect such materials and sources in accordance with their international obligations;

3. *Encourages* Member States to enhance their national capacities with appropriate means of detection and related architecture or systems, including through international cooperation and assistance in conformity with international law and regulations, with a view to reflecting and preventing the illicit trafficking of radioactive materials and sources;

4. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[191] and invites all Member States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify this instrument as soon as possible, in accordance with their legal and constitutional processes;

5. *Invites* Member States, in particular those producing and distributing radioactive sources, to support and endorse the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance the safety and security of radioactive sources, as described in General Conference resolution GC(51)/RES/11 and to enhance the security of radioactive sources as described in the Agency's

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[191] Resolution 59/290, annex.

[192] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[193] Ibid., vol. 2153, No. 37605.

[194] International Atomic Energy Agency, *Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources* (IAEA/CODEOC/2004).

[195] GOV/2001/29-GC(45)/12, attachment.

[196] See GC(49)/17.

[197] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-first Regular Session, 17–21 September 2007* (GC(51)/RES/DEC(2007)).

Nuclear Security Plan for 2006–2009,[196] urges all States to work towards following the guidance contained in the Agency's Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources,[194] including, as appropriate, the guidance on the import and export of radioactive sources, noting that the guidance is supplementary to the Code, and encourages Member States to notify the Director General of the Agency of their intention to do so pursuant to General Conference resolution GC(48)/RES/10;[198]

6. *Recognizes* the value of information exchange on national approaches to controlling radioactive sources, and takes note of the endorsement by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency of a proposal for a formalized process for a voluntary periodic exchange on information and lessons learned and for the evaluation of progress made by States towards implementing the provisions of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Member States, including through international cooperation under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to search for, locate and secure unsecured and/or uncontrolled ("orphan") radioactive sources within their State jurisdiction or territory;

8. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and through relevant international and, where appropriate, regional organizations aimed at strengthening national capacities in this regard;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session an item entitled "Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources".

RESOLUTION 62/47

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[199] by a recorded vote of 179 to 1, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: None

62/47. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/24 V of 24 December 2001, 57/72 of 22 November 2002, 58/241 of 23 December 2003, 59/86 of 3 December 2004, 60/81 of 8 December 2005 and 61/66 of 6 December 2006,

Emphasizing the importance of the continued and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[200]

Welcoming the efforts by Member States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action,

Noting with satisfaction regional and subregional efforts being undertaken in support of the implementation of the

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[198] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Regular Session, 20–24 September 2004* (GC(48)/RES/DEC(2004)).

[199] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[200] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

Programme of Action, and commending the progress that has already been made in this regard, including tackling both supply and demand factors that are relevant to addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing the efforts undertaken by non-governmental organizations in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling that, as part of the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, it was agreed that meetings of States should be convened on a biennial basis to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action,[201]

Recognizing that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently,

Bearing in mind the importance of regular national reporting, which could greatly facilitate the rendering of international cooperation and assistance to affected States,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 61/66,[202]

Welcoming the fact that the United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held from 26 June to 7 July 2006, highlighted the commitment of States to the Programme of Action as the main framework for measures within the activities of the international community to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, beyond 2006,[203]

Taking note of the reports submitted to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General dealing with the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,[204]

1. *Encourages* all initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations and civil society, for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[200] and calls upon all Member States to contribute towards the continued implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

2. *Calls upon* all States to implement the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,[205] among others, through the provision of information to the Secretary-General on the name and contact information of the national points of contact and on national marking practices related to markings used to indicate country of manufacture and/or country of import, as applicable;

3. *Takes note* of the report submitted to the General Assembly by the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/81 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons,[206] and encourages States to implement its recommendations;

4. *Decides* that, in conformity with the follow-up to the Programme of Action, the next biennial meeting of States to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action shall be held from 14 to 18 July 2008, in New York;

5. *Recalls* that the meeting of States to consider the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, shall be held within the framework of the biennial meeting of States;

6. *Encourages* States to submit, well in advance of the next biennial meeting of States, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in accordance with these instruments, and requests the Secretary-General to collate and circulate such data and information provided by States;

7. *Also encourages* States to include in their national reports, on a voluntary basis, information on their efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons, as well as on their actions aimed at enhancing international cooperation for this purpose;

8. *Calls upon* States, in considering the implementation of the Programme of Action, to take full advantage of the biennial meetings of States to identify priority issues or topics of relevance in the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and to highlight their implementation challenges and opportunities;

9. *Underlines* the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects requires concerted efforts at the national, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and that their uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world has a

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[201] Ibid., sect. IV, para. 1 (*b*).

[202] See A/62/162.

[203] See A/CONF.192/2006/RC/9.

[204] A/62/162 and A/62/163.

[205] A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex; see also decision 60/519.

[206] See A/62/163.

wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences and poses a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels;

10. *Emphasizes* the need to facilitate the implementation at the national level of the Programme of Action through the strengthening of national coordination agencies or bodies and institutional infrastructure;

11. *Also emphasizes* the fact that initiatives by the international community with respect to international cooperation and assistance remain essential and complementary to national implementation efforts, as well as to those at the regional and global levels;

12. *Recognizes* the necessity for interested States to develop effective coordination mechanisms, where they do not exist, in order to match the needs of States with existing resources to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make international cooperation and assistance more effective;

13. *Encourages* States to consider, among other mechanisms, the coherent identification of needs, priorities, national plans and programmes that may require international cooperation and assistance from States and regional and international organizations in a position to do so;

14. *Encourages* civil society and relevant organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States at the respective national and regional levels to achieve the implementation of the Programme of Action;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

RESOLUTION 62/48

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/391, para. 77),[207] by a recorded vote of 179 to 1, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: France, Israel

62/48. Relationship between disarmament and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations envisages the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources,

Recalling also the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,[208] as well as the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[209]

Recalling further its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998, 54/54 T of 1 December 1999, 55/33 L of 20 November 2000, 56/24 E of 29 November 2001, 57/65 of 22 November 2002, 59/78 of 3 December 2004, 60/61 of 8 December 2005 and 61/64 of 6 December 2006, and its decision 58/520 of 8 December 2003,

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[207] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[208] See resolution S-10/2.

[209] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[210] and the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[211]

Mindful of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

Bearing in mind the new challenges for the international community in the field of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

Stressing the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the important role of security in this connection, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development[212] and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context,

Taking note of the fact that 2007 marks the twentieth anniversary of the adoption in 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,

Bearing in mind the importance of following up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[209]

1. *Stresses* the central role of the United Nations in the disarmament-development relationship, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen further the role of the Organization in this field, in particular the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, in order to ensure continued and effective coordination and close cooperation between the relevant United Nations departments, agencies and sub-agencies;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;[209]

3. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

4. *Encourages* the international community to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to make reference to the contribution that disarmament could provide in meeting them when it reviews its progress towards this purpose in 2007, as well as to make greater efforts to integrate disarmament, humanitarian and development activities;

5. *Encourages* the relevant regional and subregional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and research institutes to incorporate issues related to the relationship between disarmament and development in their agendas and, in this regard, to take into account the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development;[212]

6. *Invites* Member States to provide the Secretary-General with information regarding measures and efforts to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the information provided by Member States pursuant to paragraph 6 above;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

RESOLUTION 62/49

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/392, para. 25)[213]

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[210] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[211] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[212] See A/59/119.

[213] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Peru (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

62/49. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 F of 4 December 1998, 54/55 F of 1 December 1999, 55/34 E of 20 November 2000, 56/25 E of 29 November 2001, 57/89 of 22 November 2002, 58/60 of 8 December 2003, 59/99 of 3 December 2004, 60/84 of 8 December 2005 and 61/92 of 6 December 2006,

Welcoming the twentieth anniversary of the Regional Centre,

Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[214] which, inter alia, concludes that the Regional Centre has continued to provide assistance to States in the Latin American and Caribbean region in the implementation of regional initiatives in the areas of peace and disarmament and development and that during the period under review such assistance was provided in the areas of practical disarmament measures, capacity-building and awareness-raising, in the preparation of national reports on weapons-related instruments and in the provision of forums for discussion among States to facilitate their reaching common positions on disarmament and non-proliferation issues, and welcoming also the Centre's initiation of the process of transferring to the African region its knowledge and best practices in the area of training courses for the law enforcement community on the prevention of illicit firearms trafficking,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development,[215] referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

Noting that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Welcoming the support provided by the Regional Centre to strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[216] as well as to promoting and assisting the ratification and implementation of existing multilateral agreements related to weapons of mass destruction and to promoting peace and disarmament education projects during the period under review,

Bearing in mind the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Bearing in mind also the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

Recognizing the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources and cooperation for the planning and implementation of their programmes of activities,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction and congratulates* the Regional Centre for the activities carried out in the last year in the areas of peace, disarmament and development, and requests the Centre to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, disarmament and development at the regional level;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to make and to increase voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

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[214] A/62/130.

[215] See A/59/119.

[216] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

5. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and making greater and better use of the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

6. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, as well as in the relationship between disarmament and development;

7. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in the important area of disarmament and development;

8. *Highlights* the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General to the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, that, through its activities, the Regional Centre has demonstrated its role as a viable regional actor in assisting States in the region to advance the cause of peace, disarmament and development in Latin America and the Caribbean;[217]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

RESOLUTION 62/50

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/392, para. 25)[218]

62/50. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005 and 61/90 of 6 December 2006 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[219] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[220] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[221]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[222]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that in paragraph 91 of the Final Document of the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Havana, on 15 and 16 September 2006, the Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,[223]

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to advancement in disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and

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[217] See A/61/157, para. 49.

[218] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[219] A/62/140.

[220] A/62/153.

[221] A/62/130.

[222] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

[223] See A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

security that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the regional disarmament branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

RESOLUTION 62/51

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/392, para. 25),[224] by a recorded vote of 120 to 52, with 10 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

62/51. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,[225]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[226] states that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

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[224] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, El Salvador, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Philippines, Samoa and Viet Nam.

[225] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[226] See resolution S-10/2.

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2007 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 61/97 of 6 December 2006,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

RESOLUTION 62/52

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/392, para. 25)[227]

62/52. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[228] in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre has been a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation for peace and disarmament in the region,

Noting that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

Commending the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and subregional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as "the Kathmandu process",

Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, held in Yokohama, Japan, from 21 to 23 August 2006 and Jeju Island, Republic of Korea, from 13 to 15 December 2006,

Welcoming the activities of the Regional Centre in the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education in the Asia-Pacific region, as recommended in the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[229]

Noting the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States,

Appreciating highly the overall support that Nepal has extended as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

1. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the forthcoming operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and voluntary financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with the

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[227] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Barbados, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

[228] A/62/153.

[229] A/57/124.

necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

6. *Welcomes* the signing of the host country agreement and the memorandum of understanding by the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and the Permanent Representative of Nepal on 20 July 2007 for the relocation of the Centre to Kathmandu;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite the necessary preparations with a view to ensuring physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu within six months to enable the Centre to function effectively;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

RESOLUTION 62/53

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/392, para. 25)[230]

62/53. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 61/96 of 6 December 2006,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[231] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[232] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[233]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[234]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in the subregion;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, and encourages the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission to support efforts for the political stabilization and reconstruction of post-conflict countries;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the revitalization of the work of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa following the decision of the twenty-fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, held at Kigali from 25 to 29 September 2006;

4. *Welcomes* the adoption by the twenty-fifth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, held at Sao Tome from 14 to 18 May 2007, of the "Sao Tome Initiative", which provides for the drafting of a legal instrument on the control of small arms and light weapons in Central Africa and of a code of conduct for defence and security forces in Central Africa, and encourages interested countries to provide their financial support for the development of these two projects;

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[230] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Cameroon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of Central African States).

[231] A/50/474, annex I.

[232] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[233] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[234] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

5. *Also welcomes* the holding at Yaoundé, from 4 to 6 September 2007, of a special conference of the Standing Advisory Committee on cross-border security issues in Central Africa, and takes note of its recommendations, particularly the recommendation relating to the project for the establishment of an international school in Cameroon to train African gendarmes and police in peacekeeping operations;

6. *Encourages* the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to continue their efforts to promote peace and security in their subregion;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support for the smooth functioning of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa;

8. *Encourages* the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to pursue their efforts to render the early-warning mechanism for Central Africa fully operational as an instrument for analysing and monitoring the political situation in the subregion within the framework of the prevention of crises and armed conflicts, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary assistance for its smooth functioning;

9. *Reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee, adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held in Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

10. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing its programme of work for the period 2006–2007;[235]

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at their ministerial meetings;

12. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue their assistance to the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

15. *Urges* Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

16. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement resolution 1540 (2004), adopted by the Security Council on 28 April 2004, which deals with combating the use of and trafficking in nuclear, biological or chemical weapons and their means of delivery by non-State actors;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance to the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to ensure the continuation of their efforts;

18. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

RESOLUTION 62/54

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/393, para. 10)[236]

62/54. Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[237]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005 and 61/98 of 6 December 2006,

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[235] A/62/129.

[236] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Germany, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, and Uruguay (on behalf of the members of the extended Bureau of the Disarmament Commission).

[237] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/62/42).

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[237]

2. *Reaffirms* the validity of its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, concerning the efficient functioning of the Disarmament Commission;

3. *Recalls* its resolution 61/98, by which it adopted additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the Commission's methods of work;

4. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

5. *Also reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[238] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[239]

7. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue the consideration of the following items at its 2008 substantive session:

(*a*) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

(*b*) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons;

8. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2008, namely from 7 to 24 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[240] together with all the official records of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

RESOLUTION 62/55

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/393, para. 10)[241]

62/55. Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[242]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

Taking note of active discussions held on the programme of work during the 2007 session of the Conference, as duly reflected in the report and the records of the plenary meetings,

Taking note also of the increased deliberations of the Conference due to the constructive contribution of its member States, the work done under the authority of the Presidents of the Conference for the 2007 session, including focused structured debates on all substantive agenda items and with the participation of experts from capitals, and the cooperation among all six Presidents of the Conference,

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[238] Resolution S-10/2.

[239] A/CN.10/137.

[240] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/62/27).

[241] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland and Syrian Arab Republic.

[242] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/62/27).

Taking note further of significant contributions made during the 2007 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, as well as of discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2008 session,

Recognizing the messages of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, as expressions of support for the endeavours of the Conference and its role as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Bearing in mind the importance of efforts towards revitalization of the disarmament machinery, including the Conference,

Recognizing the importance of continuing consultations on the question of the expansion of the Conference membership,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Calls upon* the Conference to further intensify consultations and explore possibilities with a view to reaching an agreement on a programme of work;

3. *Takes note* of the strong collective interest of the Conference to build on the increased level and focus of its activities through 2007 and to commence substantive work as soon as possible during its 2008 session;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations, as contained in paragraph 57 of its report;[242]

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of substantive work in its 2008 session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

7. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

RESOLUTION 62/56

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/394, para. 7),[243] by a recorded vote of 170 to 5, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, India, Tonga

62/56. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy

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[243] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(51)/RES/17, adopted on 20 September 2007,[244]

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the Agency,

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[245] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty[246] as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,[247]

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference on 11 May 1995,[245] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards,

Noting that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty,

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

Noting that one hundred and seventy-seven States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[248] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[249]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[246] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

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[244] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-first Regular Session, 17–21 September 2007* (GC(51)/RES/DEC(2007)).

[245] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[246] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[247] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article IX".

[248] See resolution 50/245.

[249] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 16.

RESOLUTION 62/57

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/395, para. 8)[250]

62/57. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/100 of 6 December 2006,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption and the entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[251] and its amended article 1,[252] and the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[251] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[251] and its amended version,[253] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[251] the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),[254] and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),[255]

Welcoming the results of the Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and commending the efforts of the President of the Conference,

Welcoming also the decision of the Third Review Conference to commission follow-up work under the oversight of the Chairman-designate of a meeting of States Parties to the Convention to be held from 7 to 13 November 2007 in Geneva,[256] and the decision to convene, as a matter of urgency, an intersessional meeting of governmental experts to consider further the application and implementation of existing humanitarian law to specific munitions that may cause explosive remnants of war, with particular focus on cluster munitions, including the factors affecting their reliability and their technical and design characteristics, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian impact of the use of these munitions,[256]

Welcoming further the holding, on 18 June 2007, of the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the First Conference of the States Parties to Protocol V to be held on 5 November 2007 in Geneva for the purpose of consultations and cooperation on all issues related to the operation of the Protocol,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[251] and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date, and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Third Review Conference of a Plan of Action to promote universality of the Convention and its annexed Protocols,[257] and expresses appreciation for the efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, and the President of the Third Review Conference, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Third Review Conference to establish a Compliance Mechanism in order to promote compliance and the full implementation of the obligations contained in the Convention and its annexed Protocols;[258]

5. *Further welcomes* the decision of the Third Review Conference to establish a Sponsorship Programme within the

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[250] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[251] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[252] See CCW/CONF.II/2 and Corr.1, part II.

[253] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[254] Ibid., annex A.

[255] See CCW/MSP/2003/3, annex V, appendix II.

[256] See CCW/CONF.III/11 (Part II).

[257] Ibid., annex III.

[258] Ibid., annex II.

framework of the Convention,[259] and encourages States to contribute to the programme;

6. *Welcomes* the commitment by States parties to continue to address the humanitarian problems caused by certain specific types of munitions in all their aspects, including cluster munitions, with a view to minimizing the humanitarian impact of these munitions;

7. *Expresses support* for the work conducted by the Group of Governmental Experts and the decision of the Group, based on the substantive discussion on the application and implementation of existing humanitarian law at its intersessional meeting held in June 2007, without prejudice to the outcome, to recommend to the 2007 Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention to decide how best to address the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions as a matter of urgency, including the possibility of a new instrument;[260]

8. *Notes* the decision of the Third Review Conference to dedicate up to two days at the next Meeting of the States Parties in 2007 to the issue of mines other than anti-personnel mines;[256]

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V), and welcomes the commitment of States parties to the Protocol to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol;

10. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Ninth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention to be held on 6 November 2007, for the First Conference of the States Parties to Protocol V to be held on 5 November 2007, and for the Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention to be held from 7 to 13 November 2007, as well as for any possible continuation of work after the Meetings, should the States parties deem it appropriate;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1,[252] and the Protocols thereto;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

RESOLUTION 62/58

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/396, para. 7)[261]

62/58. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 61/101 of 6 December 2006,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Welcoming the efforts deployed by the Euro-Mediterranean countries to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism, in particular by the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the Euro-Mediterranean Summit, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 and 28 November 2005,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, and their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

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[259] Ibid., annex IV.

[260] See CCW/GGE/2007/3, annex III.

[261] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[262]

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[263]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[264]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the possible resort by terrorists to weapons of mass destruction, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

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[262] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[263] A/62/111.

[264] See resolution 46/36 L.

RESOLUTION 62/59

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/397, para. 7),[265] by a recorded vote of 176 to 1, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Colombia, India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic

62/59. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process to achieve nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and that after more than ten years, its entry into force is more urgent than ever before,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by one hundred and seventy-seven States, including forty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of one hundred and forty States, including thirty-four of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, among which there are three nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 61/104 of 6 December 2006,

Welcoming the Final Declaration of the Fifth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in Vienna on 17 and 18 September 2007,[266] pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty,

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the Treaty's verification regime will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Calls for* a peaceful solution of the nuclear issues on the Korean Peninsula through successful implementation of the Joint Statement, and the initial and second-phase actions to implement it, agreed upon in the framework of the Six-Party Talks;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty to sign and ratify it as soon as possible;

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[265] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[266] CTBT-Art.XIV/2007/6, annex.

7. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

8. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, to prepare a report on the efforts of States that have ratified the Treaty towards its universalization and possibilities for providing assistance on ratification procedures to States that so request it, and to submit such a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

RESOLUTION 62/60

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/398, para. 9)[267]

62/60. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and to their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that there are one hundred and fifty-nine States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[268] including all of the permanent members of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Conferences, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention,[269] and to provide such information and data in conformity with standardized procedure to the Secretary-General on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declaration of the Fourth Review Conference[270] that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

Welcoming also the successful outcome of the Sixth Review Conference, which adopted a Final Document[271] after a gap of ten years,[272] conducted a consensus article-by-article review of the operation of the Convention and reached decisions on the continuity of the intersessional meetings of experts and States parties,

Recalling the decision reached at the Sixth Review Conference to hold four annual meetings of the States parties of one week's duration each year commencing in 2007, prior to the Seventh Review Conference, which is to be held not later than the end of 2011, and to hold a one-week meeting of experts to prepare for each meeting of the States parties,[273]

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the increase in the number of States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[268] reaffirms the call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calls upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at an early date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention;

2. *Welcomes* the information and data provided to date, and reiterates its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[269]

3. *Takes note* of the decision of the Sixth Review Conference, taking into account the importance of providing administrative support to meetings agreed by the Review Conference as well as comprehensive implementation and universalization of the Convention and the exchange of confidence-building measures, to establish an Implementation Support Unit, funded by States parties, for the period from 2007–2011,[274] within the framework defined by the Review Conference;

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[267] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Hungary.

[268] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

[269] BWC/CONF.III/23, part II.

[270] BWC/CONF.IV/9, part II.

[271] BWC/CONF.VI/6.

[272] The previous full review was conducted at the Fourth Review Conference in 1996.

[273] BWC/CONF.VI/6, part III, para. 7.

[274] Ibid., part III, paras. 5 and 6.

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Sixth Review Conference agreed on several measures to update the mechanism for the transmission of information in the framework of the confidence-building measures;

5. *Recalls* the decisions reached at the Sixth Review Conference,[275] and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate in their implementation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, including all assistance to the annual meetings of the States parties and the meetings of experts;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 62/216

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/392, para. 25)[276] by a recorded vote of 150 to none, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Japan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

62/216. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999, 55/34 D of 20 November 2000, 56/25 D of 29 November 2001, 57/91 of 22 November 2002, 58/61 of 8 December 2003, 59/101 of 3 December 2004, 60/86 of 8 December 2005 and 61/93 of 6 December 2006,

Aware of the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

Taking into account the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, in particular its institutions in the field of peace, disarmament and security, as well as with relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa for greater effectiveness,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[277] in which he stated that the Regional Centre's ability to fulfil its mandate continued to be hampered by the lack of funding, in particular core funding,

Deeply concerned that, as noted in the report of the Secretary-General, voluntary contributions continued to decline and remained insufficient for the Regional Centre to fulfil its mandate effectively and efficiently, and that there is no foreseeable reliable source of funding that would ensure its operational sustainability,

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[275] Ibid., part III, paras. 1 and 7.

[276] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Barbados, Dominica, and Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[277] A/62/140.

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 60/86, requested the Secretary-General to establish, within existing resources, a Consultative Mechanism of interested States, in particular African States, for the reorganization of the Regional Centre,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the conclusion of the work of the Consultative Mechanism for the Reorganization of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, which made concrete recommendations on the Centre's future work programme, as well as on its staffing and funding;[278]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the recommendations of the Consultative Mechanism on the Regional Centre's future work programme, as well as on its staffing and funding;

3. *Invites* the Regional Centre, taking into account the availability of financial resources, to focus its actions on the priorities identified in the recommendations of the Consultative Mechanism;

4. *Recommends* that three posts (one Professional at the P-3 level and two General Service (Other level)) be established and added to the structure of the Regional Centre, and funded from the regular budget, as recommended by the Consultative Mechanism;

5. *Also recommends* that the operating costs of the Regional Centre be funded from the regular budget;

6. *Urges* all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of peace, security and development, and to continue to provide assistance towards stabilizing the financial situation of the Centre;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

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[278] See A/62/167.

III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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RESOLUTION 62/99

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/401, para. 10)[1]

62/99. Assistance in mine action[2]

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/97 of 8 December 2005 and all its previous resolutions on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Recalling also all relevant treaties and conventions[3] and their review processes,

Taking special note of the tenth anniversary of the creation of the United Nations Mine Action Service within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, its designation as the focal point for mine action within the United Nations system, and its ongoing collaboration with and coordination of all mine-related activities of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes,[4]

Noting with appreciation the extent to which the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action has been commemorated worldwide,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian and development problems caused by the presence of mines and explosive remnants of war[5] that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and explosive remnants of war pose to the safety, health and lives of local civilian populations, as well as of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year as well as the presence of a decreasing but still very large number of, and area of square kilometres infested by, mines and explosive remnants of war as a result of armed conflicts, and therefore remaining convinced of the necessity and urgency of strengthening mine-action efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines and explosive remnants of war to civilians as soon as possible,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has a significant role to play in the field of assistance in mine action, and considering mine action to be an important and integrated component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities, as well as noting the integration of mine action in numerous United Nations peacekeeping operations,

Stressing the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations,

Stressing also the pressing need to urge non-State actors to halt immediately and unconditionally new deployments of mines and other associated explosive devices,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance in mine action;[6]

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of States, with the assistance of the United Nations and relevant organizations involved in mine action, as appropriate, to foster the establishment and development of national mine-action capacities in countries in which mines and explosive remnants of war constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local civilian population or an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels;

3. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, as well as the United Nations system and relevant organizations and institutions involved in mine action, as appropriate, to provide:

(*a*) Assistance to countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war for the establishment and development of national mine-action capacities;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[2] As referred to in previous resolutions of the General Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action.

[3] These include the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, 1997; the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices, as amended in 1996 (Protocol II to the 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects); the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War, 2003 (Protocol V to the 1980 Convention); the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I), 1977; and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006 (not yet in force).

[4] See resolution 53/26, para. 9.

[5] As defined by Protocol V to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

[6] A/62/307 and Corr.3.

(*b*) Support for national programmes, where appropriate, in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and relevant regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations, to reduce the risks posed by landmines and explosive remnants of war, taking into consideration the differing impacts on women, men, girls and boys;

(*c*) Reliable, predictable and timely contributions for mine-action activities, including through national mine-action efforts and mine-action programmes of non-governmental organizations, including those relating to victim assistance and mine risk education, especially at the local level, as well as through the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and relevant regional trust funds for assistance in mine action;

(*d*) Necessary information and technical, financial and material assistance to locate, remove, destroy and otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps, other devices and explosive remnants of war, in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

(*e*) Technological assistance (i) to countries affected by mines and explosive remnants of war; and (ii) to promote user-oriented scientific research on and development of mine-action techniques and technology that are effective, sustainable, appropriate and environmentally sound;

4. *Encourages* efforts to conduct all mine-action activities in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) or IMAS-compliant national standards, and emphasizes the importance of using an information management system, such as the Information Management System for Mine Action, to help facilitate mine-action activities;

5. *Urges* all mine-affected States, pursuant to applicable international law, to identify all areas under their jurisdiction containing mines and other explosive remnants of war in the most efficient manner possible, including, where appropriate, through the use of area reduction;

6. *Encourages* affected States to proactively mainstream mine action and victim assistance requirements into development plans and processes to ensure that development priorities include mine action and that mine action is predictably funded;

7. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral, regional and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine action, including mine clearance, in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national and local ownership, sustainability and capacity-building, as well as to include a gender and age-appropriate perspective in all aspects of such activities;

8. *Stresses* the importance of cooperation and coordination in mine action, and emphasizes the primary responsibility of national authorities in that regard, also stresses the supporting role of the United Nations and other relevant organizations in that regard, and underlines the need for continuous assessment of the role of the United Nations in mine action;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of explicitly incorporating references to mine action, when appropriate, in ceasefire and peace agreements in light of the potential that mine action can have as a peace and confidence-building measure in post-conflict situations among parties concerned;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on follow-up to previous resolutions on assistance in mine clearance and on assistance in mine action, including on relevant United Nations policies and activities;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

RESOLUTION 62/100

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/402, para. 11)[7]

62/100. Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, including resolution 61/109 of 14 December 2006, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Taking note with appreciation of the work of the Scientific Committee, and of the release of its report on its fifty-fifth session,[8]

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

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[7] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/62/46).

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

Noting the views expressed by Member States at its sixty-second session with regard to the work of the Scientific Committee,

Noting also the deep concern of the Scientific Committee that reliance on a single post at the Professional level in its secretariat has left the Committee seriously vulnerable and has hampered the efficient implementation of its approved programme of work,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making in the course of the past fifty-two years, since its inception, to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation, and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee;

3. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources;

4. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for completing its present programme of work of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly and for developing a longer-term strategic plan for its work, and requests the Committee to submit plans for its future programme of work to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

5. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue at its next session the review of the important problems in the field of ionizing radiation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

6. *Recalls* the intention of the Scientific Committee, expressed in paragraph 5 of its report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session,[9] to clarify further the assessment of potential harm owing to chronic low-level exposures among large populations and also the attributability of health effects, and encourages the Committee to submit a report on that issue at its earliest convenience;

7. *Emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report can reflect the latest developments and findings in the field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States, and endorses, on an exceptional basis, the intention of the Committee to convene its fifty-sixth session for seven days in order to finalize its next substantive report;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and non-governmental organizations, and invites them to increase their cooperation in this field;

9. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports, and requests the Secretariat to facilitate such consultations;

10. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the effects of ionizing radiation in affected areas, and invites the Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

11. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue providing support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

13. *Appeals* to the Secretary-General to take appropriate administrative measures so that the secretariat can adequately service the Scientific Committee in a predictable and sustainable manner and effectively facilitate the use of the invaluable expertise offered to the Committee by its members in order that the Committee may discharge the responsibilities and mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly;

14. *Urges* the United Nations Environment Programme to review and strengthen the present funding of the Scientific Committee, pursuant to paragraph 13 of resolution 61/109, and to continue to seek out and consider temporary funding mechanisms to complement existing ones, and, in that context, takes note of the establishment by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme of a general trust fund to receive and manage voluntary contributions to support the work of the Scientific Committee, and encourages Member States to consider making voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

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[9] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 46* and corrigendum (A/61/46 and Corr.1).

15. *Welcomes* that Belarus, Finland, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Spain and Ukraine have informed the President of the General Assembly before 28 February 2007, in accordance with paragraph 14 of resolution 61/109, of their desire to become members of the Scientific Committee, and invites each of those six Member States to designate one scientist to attend, as observers, the fifty-sixth session of the Committee;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide a comprehensive and consolidated report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, to be prepared in consultation with the Scientific Committee as appropriate, addressing the financial and administrative implications of increased Committee membership, staffing of the professional secretariat and methods to ensure sufficient, assured and predictable funding.

RESOLUTION 62/101

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/403, para. 14)[10]

62/101. Recommendations on enhancing the practice of States and international intergovernmental organizations in registering space objects

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies[11] (Outer Space Treaty), in particular articles VIII and XI,

Recalling also the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space,[12]

Recalling further its resolution 1721 B (XVI) of 20 December 1961,

Recalling its resolution 41/66 of 3 December 1986,

Taking note of the relevant parts of the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on its fiftieth session[13] and the report of the Legal Subcommittee on its forty-sixth session, in particular the conclusions of the Working Group on the Practice of States and International Organizations in Registering Space Objects, annexed to the report of the Legal Subcommittee,[14]

Noting that nothing in the conclusions of the Working Group or in the present resolution constitutes an authoritative interpretation of or a proposed amendment to the Registration Convention,

Bearing in mind the benefits for States of becoming parties to the Registration Convention and that, by acceding to, implementing and observing the provisions of the Registration Convention, States:

(*a*) Enhance the utility of the Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space established under article III of the Registration Convention, in which information furnished by States and international intergovernmental organizations conducting space activities that have declared their acceptance of the rights and obligations under the Registration Convention is recorded,

(*b*) Benefit from additional means and procedures that assist in the identification of space objects, including, in particular, in accordance with article VI of the Registration Convention,

Noting that States parties to the Registration Convention and international intergovernmental organizations conducting space activities, having declared their acceptance of the rights and obligations under the Convention, shall furnish information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the Convention and shall establish an appropriate registry and inform the Secretary-General of the establishment of such a registry in accordance with the Convention,

Considering that universal accession to and acceptance, implementation and observance of the provisions of the Registration Convention:

(*a*) Lead to increased establishment of appropriate registries,

(*b*) Contribute to the development of procedures and mechanisms for the maintenance of appropriate registries and the provision of information to the Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space,

(*c*) Contribute to common procedures, at the national and international levels, for registering space objects with the Register,

(*d*) Contribute to uniformity with regard to the information to be furnished and recorded in the Register concerning space objects listed in the appropriate registries,

(*e*) Contribute to the receipt of and recording in the Register of additional information concerning space objects on the appropriate registries and information on objects that are no longer in Earth orbit,

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[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of France (on behalf of the Working Group of the Whole on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[12] Ibid., vol. 1023, No. 15020.

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 209–215.

[14] See A/AC.105/891, annex III, appendix.

Noting that changes in space activities since the Registration Convention entered into force include the continuous development of new technologies, an increase in the number of States carrying out space activities, an increase in international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and an increase in activities carried out by non-governmental entities, as well as partnerships formed by non-governmental entities from more than one country,

Desirous of achieving the most complete registration of space objects,

Desirous also of enhancing adherence to the Registration Convention,

1. *Recommends*, with regard to adherence to the Registration Convention,[12] that:

(*a*) States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Registration Convention should become parties to it in accordance with their domestic law and, until they become parties, furnish information in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1721 B (XVI);

(*b*) International intergovernmental organizations conducting space activities that have not yet declared their acceptance of the rights and obligations under the Registration Convention should do so in accordance with article VII of the Convention;

2. *Also recommends*, with regard to the harmonization of practices, that:

(*a*) Consideration should be given to achieving uniformity in the type of information to be provided to the Secretary-General on the registration of space objects, and such information could include, inter alia:

(i) The Committee on Space Research international designator, where appropriate;

(ii) Coordinated Universal Time as the time reference for the date of launch;

(iii) Kilometres, minutes and degrees as the standard units for basic orbital parameters;

(iv) Any useful information relating to the function of the space object in addition to the general function requested by the Registration Convention;

(*b*) Consideration should be given to the furnishing of additional appropriate information to the Secretary-General on the following areas:

(i) The geostationary orbit location, where appropriate;

(ii) Any change of status in operations (inter alia, when a space object is no longer functional);

(iii) The approximate date of decay or re-entry, if States are capable of verifying that information;

(iv) The date and physical conditions of moving a space object to a disposal orbit;

(v) Web links to official information on space objects;

(*c*) States conducting space activities and international intergovernmental organizations that have declared their acceptance of the rights and obligations under the Registration Convention should, when they have designated focal points for their appropriate registries, provide the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat with the contact details of those focal points;

3. *Further recommends*, in order to achieve the most complete registration of space objects, that:

(*a*) Due to the complexity of the responsibility structure in international intergovernmental organizations conducting space activities, a solution should be sought in cases where an international intergovernmental organization conducting space activities has not yet declared its acceptance of the rights and obligations under the Registration Convention, and a general backup solution should be provided for registration by international intergovernmental organizations conducting space activities in cases where there is no consensus on registration among the States members of such organizations;

(*b*) The State from whose territory or facility a space object has been launched should, in the absence of prior agreement, contact States or international intergovernmental organizations that could qualify as "launching States" to jointly determine which State or entity should register the space object;

(*c*) In cases of joint launches of space objects, each space object should be registered separately and, without prejudice to the rights and obligations of States, space objects should be included, in accordance with international law, including the relevant United Nations treaties on outer space, in the appropriate registry of the State responsible for the operation of the space object under article VI of the Outer Space Treaty;[11]

(*d*) States should encourage launch service providers under their jurisdiction to advise the owner and/or operator of the space object to address the appropriate States on the registration of that space object;

4. *Recommends* that, following the change in supervision of a space object in orbit:

(*a*) The State of registry, in cooperation with the appropriate State according to article VI of the Outer Space Treaty, could furnish to the Secretary-General additional information, such as:

(i) The date of change in supervision;

(ii) The identification of the new owner or operator;

(iii) Any change of orbital position;

(iv) Any change of function of the space object;

(*b*) If there is no State of registry, the appropriate State according to article VI of the Outer Space Treaty could furnish the above information to the Secretary-General;

5. *Requests* the Office for Outer Space Affairs:

(*a*) To make available to all States and international intergovernmental organizations a model registration form reflecting the information to be provided to the Office for Outer Space Affairs, to assist them in their submission of registration information;

(*b*) To make public, through its website, the contact details of the focal points;

(*c*) To establish web links on its website to the appropriate registries that are available on the Internet;

6. *Recommends* that States and international intergovernmental organizations should report to the Office for Outer Space Affairs on new developments relating to their practice in registering space objects.

RESOLUTION 62/102

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/404, para. 15),[15] by a recorded vote of 171 to 2, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Nauru

Abstaining: Cameroon, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America, Vanuatu

62/102. Assistance to Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question, including resolution 61/112 of 14 December 2006,

Recalling also its resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, by which, inter alia, it established the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions,

Aware of the fact that, for nearly six decades, the Palestine refugees have suffered from the loss of their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Affirming the imperative of resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees for the achievement of justice and for the achievement of lasting peace in the region,

Acknowledging the essential role that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East has played for more than fifty-seven years since its establishment in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through its provision of education, health, relief and social services and emergency assistance,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2006,[16]

Aware of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees throughout all the fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

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[15] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and Palestine.

[16] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/62/13); and ibid., *Supplement No. 13A* (A/62/13/Add.1).

Expressing grave concern at the especially difficult situation of the Palestine refugees under occupation, including with regard to their safety, well-being and socio-economic living conditions,

Expressing grave concern in particular at the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance,

Noting the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements on 13 September 1993 by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[17] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

Aware of the important role to be played in the peace process by the Multilateral Working Group on Refugees of the Middle East peace process,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected, and that, therefore, the situation of the Palestine refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern and the Palestine refugees continue to require assistance to meet basic health, education and living needs;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and reiterates its request to the Conciliation Commission to continue exerting efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2008;

3. *Affirms* the necessity for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the importance of its unimpeded operation and its provision of services for the well-being and human development of the Palestine refugees and for the stability of the region, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Calls upon* all donors to continue to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including with regard to increased expenditures arising from the continuing deterioration of the socio-economic and humanitarian situation in the region, particularly in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and those mentioned in recent emergency appeals;

5. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Agency until 30 June 2011, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III).

RESOLUTION 62/103

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/404, para. 15),[18] by a recorded vote of 171 to 6, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Canada, Vanuatu

62/103. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

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[17] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[18] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 61/113 of 14 December 2006,[19]

Taking note also of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2006,[20]

Concerned about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[21] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Expresses deep concern* that the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[21] on the return of displaced persons has not been complied with, and stresses the necessity for an accelerated return of displaced persons;

3. *Endorses*, in the meanwhile, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its sixty-third session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/104

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/404, para. 15),[22] by a recorded vote of 170 to 6, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Vanuatu

62/104. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions, including its resolution 61/114 of 14 December 2006,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions,

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[19] A/62/282.

[20] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/62/13); and ibid., *Supplement No. 13A* (A/62/13/Add.1).

[21] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[22] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

Having considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2006,[23]

Taking note of the letter dated 17 June 2007 from the Chairperson of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East addressed to the Commissioner-General,[24]

Deeply concerned about the critical financial situation of the Agency, as well as about the rising expenditures of the Agency resulting from the deterioration of the socio-economic and humanitarian conditions in the region and their significant negative impact on the provision of necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including its emergency-related and development programmes,

Recalling Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[25]

Recalling also the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[26]

Affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[27] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Aware of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory and in the other fields of operation, namely Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic,

Gravely concerned about the extremely difficult living conditions being faced by the Palestine refugees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, resulting, inter alia, from the loss of life and injury, the extensive destruction of their shelters, properties and vital infrastructure, the displacement of the Palestine refugees, the prolonged closures and socio-economic decline,

Aware of the extraordinary efforts being undertaken by the Agency for the repair or rebuilding of thousands of damaged or destroyed refugee shelters and for the provision of shelter and emergency aid for those refugee families internally displaced as a result of Israeli military actions, as well as for those refugees affected and displaced by the recent crisis in the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp in northern Lebanon,

Aware also of the valuable work done by the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees,

Gravely concerned about the endangerment of the safety of the Agency's staff and about the damage caused to the facilities of the Agency as a result of Israeli military operations during the reporting period,

Deploring the killing of fourteen Agency staff members by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since September 2000 and of one Agency staff member by the Israeli air force in Lebanon in August 2006,

Also deploring the killing and wounding of refugee children, including in the Agency's schools, by the Israeli occupying forces,

Expressing deep concern about the policies of closure and severe restrictions that continue to be imposed on the movement of persons and goods and the continued construction of the wall, contrary to international law, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, which have gravely impacted the socio-economic situation of the Palestine refugees and have greatly contributed to the dire humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people,

Deeply concerned about the continuing imposition of restrictions on the freedom of movement and access of the Agency's staff, vehicles and goods, and the harassment and intimidation of the Agency's staff, which undermine and obstruct the work of the Agency, including its ability to provide its essential basic and emergency services,

Recalling the signing, on 13 September 1993, of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[28] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

Aware of the agreement between the Agency and the Government of Israel,

Taking note of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[29]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as well as to all of the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work,

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[23] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/62/13); and ibid., *Supplement No. 13A* (A/62/13/Add.1).

[24] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/62/13), p. ix.

[25] Resolution 22 A (I).

[26] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

[27] Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.

[28] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[29] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

particularly in the light of the difficult conditions during the past year;

2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East[30] and its efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work;

4. *Commends* the continuing efforts of the Commissioner-General to increase the budgetary transparency and efficiency of the Agency, as reflected in the Agency's programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009,[31] and the organizational reform measures being undertaken to modernize and strengthen the Agency's management and its ability to address the needs of the Palestine refugees;

5. *Endorses*, meanwhile, the efforts of the Commissioner-General to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are internally displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of recent incursions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and hostilities in Lebanon;

6. *Acknowledges* the important support provided by the host Governments to the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

7. *Encourages* the Agency to make further progress in addressing the needs and rights of children in its operations in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[32]

8. *Also encourages* the Agency to also make further progress in addressing the needs and rights of women in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[33]

9. *Expresses concern* about the temporary relocation of the international staff of the Agency from its headquarters in Gaza City and the disruption of operations at the headquarters due to the deterioration and instability of the situation on the ground;

10. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;[27]

11. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[25] in order to ensure the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of its facilities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

12. *Urges* the Government of Israel to speedily compensate the Agency for damage to its property and facilities resulting from actions by the Israeli side and to expeditiously reimburse the Agency for all transit charges incurred and other financial losses sustained by the Agency as a result of delays and restrictions on movement and access imposed by Israel;

13. *Calls upon* Israel particularly to cease obstructing the movement and access of the staff, vehicles and supplies of the Agency and to cease the levying of extra fees and charges, which affect the Agency's operations detrimentally;

14. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

15. *Affirms* that the functioning of the Agency remains essential in all the fields of operation;

16. *Notes* the success of the Agency's microfinance and microenterprise programmes, and calls upon the Agency, in close cooperation with the relevant agencies, to continue to contribute to the development of the economic and social stability of the Palestine refugees in all the fields of operation;

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Commissioner-General to proceed with the modernization of the archives of the Agency through the Palestine Refugee Records Project, and to indicate progress in her report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

18. *Reiterates its previous appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships for higher education to Palestine refugees in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the Agency and to contribute to the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees, and requests the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships;

19. *Urges* all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to increase their contributions to the Agency so as to ease the ongoing financial constraints, exacerbated by the current humanitarian situation on the ground that has resulted in rising expenditures, in

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[30] A/62/361.

[31] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 13A* (A/62/13/Add.1).

[32] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[33] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

particular with regard to emergency services, and to support the Agency's valuable and necessary work in assisting the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation.

RESOLUTION 62/105

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/404, para. 15),[34] by a recorded vote of 170 to 6, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Vanuatu

62/105. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 61/115 of 14 December 2006,[35]

Taking note also of the report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 2006 to 31 August 2007,[36]

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[37] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

Recalling in particular its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine refugees,

Noting the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[38] and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and a file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

Expressing its appreciation for the preservation and modernization of the existing records, including the land records, of the Conciliation Commission and the importance of such records for a just resolution of the plight of the Palestine refugees in conformity with resolution 194 (III),

Recalling that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[39] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of equity and justice;

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[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

[35] A/62/312.

[36] See A/62/181.

[37] Resolution 217 A (III).

[38] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No. 11, document A/5700.

[39] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues within the framework of the final status negotiations of the Middle East peace process;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/106

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/405, para. 16),[40] by a recorded vote of 93 to 8, with 74 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu

62/106. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[41] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[42] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[43]

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and 61/116 of 14 December 2006, and the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Taking into account the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[44] and recalling in this regard General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Convinced that occupation itself represents a gross and grave violation of human rights,

Gravely concerned about the continuing detrimental impact of the events that have taken place since 28 September 2000, including the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in thousands of deaths and injuries, the widespread destruction of property and vital infrastructure and the internal displacement of civilians,

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[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

[41] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[42] Resolution 217 A (III).

[43] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[44] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[45] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[46]

Recalling the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[47] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Expressing the hope that the Israeli occupation will be brought to an early and complete end and that therefore the violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people will cease, and recalling in this regard its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality;

2. *Reiterates its demand* that Israel, the occupying Power, cooperate, in accordance with its obligations as a State Member of the United Nations, with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the report of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;[45]

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000, as a result of unlawful Israeli practices and measures, and especially condemns all illegal Israeli settlement activities and the construction of the wall, as well as the excessive and indiscriminate use of force against the civilian population, including extrajudicial executions;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[41] and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment of the thousands of prisoners and detainees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(*b*) To continue to make available such staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(*c*) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(*d*) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(*e*) To report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

RESOLUTION 62/107

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/405, para. 16),[48] by a recorded vote of 169 to 6, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia,

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[45] See A/62/360.

[46] A/62/330–334.

[47] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[48] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire

62/107. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including its resolution 61/117 of 14 December 2006,

Recalling also its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Recalling the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 1907,[49] the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[50] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[51] to the four Geneva Conventions,[52]

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[53] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[54]

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[55] and also recalling General Assembly resolution ES-10/15,

Noting in particular the Court's reply, including that the Fourth Geneva Convention[50] is applicable in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and that Israel is in breach of several of the provisions of the Convention,

Noting the convening, on 15 July 1999, of a Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to ensure respect thereof in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions, and stressing the importance of the Declaration adopted by the reconvened Conference on 5 December 2001 and the need for the parties to follow up the implementation of the Declaration,

Welcoming and encouraging the initiatives by States parties to the Convention, both individually and collectively, according to article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention,

Stressing that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[50] is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions[52] and as mentioned in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004,[55] to

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[49] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[50] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[51] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[52] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[53] See A/62/360.

[54] A/62/330–334.

[55] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

continue to exert all efforts to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth emergency special session, including resolution ES-10/15, with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/108

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/405, para. 16),[56] by a recorded vote of 165 to 7, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Angola, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Tonga, Vanuatu

62/108. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 61/118 of 14 December 2006, as well as those resolutions adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981 and 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[57] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Considering that the transfer by the occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies constitutes a breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention[57] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[58] to the four Geneva Conventions,[59]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[60] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Noting that the International Court of Justice concluded that "the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (including East Jerusalem) have been established in breach of international law",[61]

Taking note of the recent report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967,[62]

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[56] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

[57] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[58] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[59] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[60] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[61] Ibid., advisory opinion, para. 120.

[62] See A/62/275.

Recalling the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[63] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Recalling also the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[64] and noting specifically its call for a freeze on all settlement activity,

Aware that Israeli settlement activities involve, inter alia, the transfer of nationals of the occupying Power into the occupied territories, the confiscation of land, the exploitation of natural resources and other illegal actions against the Palestinian civilian population,

Bearing in mind the detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East,

Expressing grave concern about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in violation of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions and the agreements reached between the parties, and concerned particularly about Israel's construction and expansion of settlements in and around Occupied East Jerusalem, including its so-called E-1 plan, aimed at connecting its illegal settlements around and further isolating Occupied East Jerusalem, and in the Jordan Valley,

Expressing grave concern also about the continuing unlawful construction by Israel of the wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and expressing its concern in particular about the route of the wall in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949, which is causing serious humanitarian hardship and a serious decline of socio-economic conditions for the Palestinian people, is fragmenting the territorial contiguity of the Palestinian Territory and could prejudge future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement,

Deeply concerned that the wall's route has been traced in such a way as to include the great majority of the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Reiterating its opposition to settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan and to any activities involving the confiscation of land, the disruption of the livelihood of protected persons and the de facto annexation of land,

Recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Gravely concerned about the dangerous situation resulting from violent actions taken by the illegal armed Israeli settlers in the occupied territory,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the importance of the dismantlement of the settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map,

Taking note of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[65]

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[57] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49;

3. *Notes* the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the importance of the dismantlement of the settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map[64] and the need for the parties to speedily resolve all remaining issues in the Gaza Strip;

4. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, with respect to the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

5. *Reiterates its demand* for the immediate and complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 465 (1980);

6. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice;[60]

7. *Stresses* the need for full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council regarding the Israeli settlements, including Security Council resolution 904 (1994), in which, among other things, the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including confiscation of arms, with the aim of preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;

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[63] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[65] A/62/330, 334 and A/62/360.

8. *Reiterates its calls* for the prevention of all acts of violence and harassment by Israeli settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians and properties;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/109

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/405, para. 16),[66] by a recorded vote of 156 to 7, with 11 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Uganda, United States of America, Vanuatu

62/109. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 61/119 of 14 December 2006, as well as those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and stressing the need for their implementation,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[67] and the report of the Secretary-General,[68]

Taking note of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[69]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[70] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Noting in particular the Court's reply, including that the construction of the wall being built by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[71] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[71] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[72] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law, and recalling in this regard its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

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[66] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[67] See A/62/360.

[68] A/62/334.

[69] A/HRC/5/11 and A/62/275.

[70] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[71] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[72] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[73] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Reaffirming further the obligation of the States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention[73] under articles 146, 147 and 148 with regard to penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties,

Reaffirming that all States have the right and the duty to take actions in conformity with international law and international humanitarian law to counter deadly acts of violence against their civilian population in order to protect the lives of their citizens,

Stressing the need for full compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process, including the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings, and the implementation of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[74]

Stressing also the need for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population within and into and out of the Gaza Strip,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the importance of the dismantlement of settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map,

Expressing grave concern about the continuing systematic violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including that arising from the excessive use of force, the use of collective punishment, the reoccupation and closure of areas, the confiscation of land, the establishment and expansion of settlements, the construction of the wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949, the destruction of property and infrastructure, and all other actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Gravely concerned about the military actions that have been carried out since 28 September 2000 and that have led to thousands of deaths among Palestinian civilians, including hundreds of children, and tens of thousands of injuries,

Expressing deep concern about the continuing deterioration in the humanitarian and security situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from the Israeli military actions against civilian areas, air raids and the prolonged closure of crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip, as well as from the firing of rockets into Israel and the negative impact of the events of June 2007 leading to the unlawful takeover of Palestinian Authority institutions in the Gaza Strip,

Expressing deep concern also about the vast destruction caused by the Israeli occupying forces, including of religious, cultural and historical sites, of vital infrastructure and institutions of the Palestinian Authority, and of agricultural land throughout Palestinian cities, towns, villages and refugee camps, and expressing deep concern about the short- and long-term detrimental impact of such destruction on the socio-economic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian civilian population,

Expressing deep concern further about the Israeli policy of closures, severe restrictions, and a permit regime that obstruct the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian personnel and goods, throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and about the consequent violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people and negative impact on their socio-economic situation, which remains that of a dire humanitarian crisis,

Concerned in particular about the continued establishment of Israeli checkpoints in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the transformation of several of these checkpoints into structures akin to permanent border crossings inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are severely impairing the territorial contiguity of the Territory and severely undermining efforts and aid aimed at rehabilitating and developing the Palestinian economy,

Expressing deep concern that thousands of Palestinians, including hundreds of children and women, continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres under harsh conditions that impair their well-being, and expressing concern about the ill treatment and harassment of any Palestinian prisoners and all reports of torture,

Convinced of the need for an international presence to monitor the situation, to contribute to ending the violence and protecting the Palestinian civilian population and to help the parties implement the agreements reached and, in this regard, recalling the positive contribution of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron,

1. *Reiterates* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[73] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of

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[73] Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.

[74] S/2003/529, annex.

1949[73] and cease immediately all measures and actions taken in violation and in breach of the Convention, including all of its settlement activities and the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem;

3. *Condemns* all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, which have caused extensive loss of life and vast numbers of injuries, including among children, massive destruction of homes, properties, agricultural lands and vital infrastructure, and internal displacement of civilians;

4. *Expresses grave concern* at the firing of rockets against Israeli civilian areas resulting in loss of life and injury;

5. *Notes* the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the dismantlement of the settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map;[74]

6. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, in this regard, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, with respect to the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the extrajudicial executions, and that it respect human rights law and comply with its legal obligations in this regard;

8. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to release all remaining tax revenues due to the Palestinian Authority, in accordance with the Paris Economic Protocol of 1994, to cease its imposition of closures and restrictions on movement, and, in this regard, to implement the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005;

9. *Acknowledges* the role the Temporary International Mechanism has played in assisting the Palestinian people directly;

10. *Urges* Member States to continue to provide emergency assistance to the Palestinian people to alleviate the financial crisis and the dire socio-economic and humanitarian situation being faced by the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to preserve the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure for the provision of vital public services to the Palestinian civilian population and the promotion of Palestinian civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights;

12. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice[70] and as demanded in resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003, and that it immediately cease the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, dismantle forthwith the structure situated therein, repeal or render ineffective all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto, and make reparation for all damage caused by the construction of the wall, which has gravely impacted the human rights and the socio-economic living conditions of the Palestinian people;

13. *Stresses* the need for respect for the unity and territorial contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and for guarantees of the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including movement into and from East Jerusalem, into and from the Gaza Strip, and to and from the outside world;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/110

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/405, para. 16),[75] by a recorded vote of 164 to 1, with 10 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka,

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[75] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Tonga, United States of America, Vanuatu

62/110. The occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[76]

Deeply concerned that the Syrian Golan, occupied since 1967, has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling also its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 61/120 of 14 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 61/120,[77]

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

Reaffirming once more the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

Reaffirming that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[78] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Welcoming the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on all tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[78] and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and from its repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTIONS 62/111 A and B

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/407, para. 8)[79]

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[76] See A/62/360.

[77] A/62/331.

[78] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[79] The draft resolutions recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee were submitted by the Committee on Information.

62/111. Questions relating to information

A

INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[80]

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information,[81]

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(*a*) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communication infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communication policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(*b*) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(*c*) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(*d*) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communication capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communication technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(*e*) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communication systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communication technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communication technology available on the open market;

(*f*) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[82] which should support both public and private media.

B

UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the role of the Committee on Information as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

Reaffirming its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, establishing the Department, which states in paragraph 2 of annex I that "the activities of the Department should be so organized and directed as to promote to the greatest possible extent an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among the peoples of the world",

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[80] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/62/21).

[81] A/62/205.

[82] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-first Session, Belgrade, 23 September–28 October 1980*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. III.4, resolution 4/21.

Emphasizing that the contents of public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations and that a culture of communications and transparency should permeate all levels of the Organization, as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to create broad-based global support for the United Nations,

Stressing that the primary mission of the Department of Public Information is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive, timely and relevant information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency,

Recalling the comprehensive review of the work of the Department of Public Information, requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001, as well as the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change",[83] and Assembly resolutions 57/300 of 20 December 2002 and 60/109 B of 8 December 2005, which provided an opportunity to take due steps to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department and to maximize the use of its resources,

Expressing its concern that the gap in information and communication technologies between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that vast segments of the population in developing countries are not benefiting from the present information and communication technologies, and in this regard underlining the necessity of rectifying the imbalances in the present development of information and communication technologies in order to make it more just, equitable and effective,

Recognizing that developments in information and communication technologies open vast new opportunities for economic growth and social development and can play an important role in the eradication of poverty in developing countries, and at the same time emphasizing that the development of these technologies poses challenges and risks and could lead to the further widening of disparities between and within countries,

Recalling its resolution 59/309 of 22 June 2005 on multilingualism, and emphasizing the importance of making appropriate use of the official languages of the United Nations in the activities of the Department of Public Information, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the five other official languages,

Welcoming the Dominican Republic and Thailand to membership in the Committee on Information,

I

Introduction

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 13 (I), in which it established the Department of Public Information, and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly related to the activities of the Department, and requests the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/44 B of 10 December 1993 and other mandates as established by the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the United Nations remains the indispensable foundation of a peaceful and just world and that its voice must be heard in a clear and effective manner, and emphasizes the essential role of the Department of Public Information in this context, the activities of which should be so organized and directed as to promote to the greatest possible extent an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among the peoples of the world;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the clear and timely provision of information by the Secretariat to Member States, upon their request, within the framework of existing mandates and procedures;

4. *Reaffirms* the central role of the Committee on Information in United Nations public information policies and activities, including the prioritization of those activities, and decides that recommendations relating to the programme of the Department of Public Information shall originate, to the extent possible, in the Committee and shall be considered by the Committee;

5. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, following the priorities laid down by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/275 of 23 December 2004, and guided by the United Nations Millennium Declaration[84] to pay particular attention to such major issues as the eradication of poverty, conflict prevention, sustainable development, human rights, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and the needs of the African continent;

6. *Also requests* the Department of Public Information to pay particular attention to progress in implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including those

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[83] A/57/387 and Corr.1.

[84] See resolution 55/2.

contained in the Millennium Declaration, and the outcomes of the major related United Nations summits and conferences in carrying out its activities;

7. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the technological infrastructure of the Department of Public Information on a continuous basis in order to widen its outreach and continue to improve the United Nations website;

8. *Recognizes* the important work carried out by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its collaboration with news agencies and broadcasting organizations in developing countries in disseminating information on priority issues, and encourages continued collaboration between the Department of Public Information and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of culture and in the fields of education and communication, bridging the existing gap between the developed and the developing countries;

II

General activities of the Department of Public Information

9. *Notes* the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information,[85] and requests the Secretary-General to continue reporting to the Committee on Information on the activities of the Department at successive sessions;

10. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, while acknowledging its commitment to a culture of evaluation, to continue to evaluate its products and activities with the objective of improving their effectiveness, including through interdepartmental consultations, and to continue to cooperate and coordinate with Member States and the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

11. *Reaffirms* that the Department of Public Information is the focal point for information policies of the United Nations and the primary news centre for information about the United Nations, its activities and those of the Secretary-General;

12. *Also reaffirms* the importance of more effective coordination between the Department of Public Information and the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure consistency in the messages of the Organization;

13. *Further reaffirms* that the Department of Public Information must prioritize its work programme while respecting existing mandates and in line with regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[86] to focus its message and better concentrate its efforts and to match its programmes with the needs of its target audiences, on the basis of improved feedback and evaluation mechanisms;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly, requests the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirtieth session;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations website and the United Nations News Service, contain comprehensive, objective and equitable information about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

16. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to ensure that United Nations publications are produced in a cost-effective manner and to continue to coordinate closely with all other entities, including all other departments of the Secretariat and funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in order to avoid duplication, within their respective mandates, in the issuance of United Nations publications;

17. *Emphasizes* that the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, and that the activities of the Department should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

18. *Also emphasizes* that the Secretary-General should continue to strengthen the coordination between the Department of Public Information and all other entities, including all other departments of the Secretariat and funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in the context of the client-oriented approach of the Department, which should identify target audiences and develop information programmes and media strategies for priority issues, and emphasizes that public information capacities and activities in other departments should function under the guidance of the Department;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the continued efforts of the Department of Public Information in issuing daily press releases, and requests the Department to continue providing this service to both Member States and representatives of the media,

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[85] A/AC.198/2007/4 and Corr.1.

[86] ST/SGB/2000/8.

while continuing its efforts to improve their production process and streamlining their format, structure and length, keeping in mind the views of Member States;

20. *Also notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to work at the local level with other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to enhance the coordination of their communication activities, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirtieth session on progress achieved in this regard and on the activities of the United Nations Communications Group;

21. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information to continue to examine its policies and activities regarding the durable preservation of its radio, television and photographic archives, to take action, within existing resources, to ensure that such archives are preserved and are accessible and to report to the Committee on Information at its thirtieth session;

Multilingualism and public information

22. *Emphasizes* the importance of making appropriate use of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department of Public Information, including in presentations to the Committee on Information, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the five other official languages;

23. *Also emphasizes* the importance of ensuring the full, equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department of Public Information, and in this regard reaffirms its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that the Department has appropriate staffing capacity in all the official languages of the United Nations to undertake all its activities;

24. *Stresses* the importance of fully implementing its resolution 52/214 of 22 December 1997, in section C of which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the texts of all new public documents in all six official languages and information materials of the United Nations are made available daily through the United Nations website and are accessible to Member States without delay;

25. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to enhance multilingualism in its activities, and requests the Department to continue its endeavours in this regard;

26. *Reiterates* paragraph 4 of section C of its resolution 52/214, and requests the Secretary-General to continue towards completion of the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents on the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis, so that these archives are also available to Member States through that medium;

27. *Reaffirms* that it is important that the Secretary-General include in future programme budget proposals for the Department of Public Information the importance of using all six official languages in its activities;

28. *Welcomes* the work done by the network of United Nations information centres in favour of the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents in languages other than the official languages of the United Nations, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all the corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization;

Bridging the digital divide

29. *Recalls with satisfaction* General Assembly resolution 60/252 of 27 March 2006, in which it endorsed the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society[87] and proclaimed 17 May annual World Information Society Day, also recalls the adoption of the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action[88] at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003, and in this regard requests the Department of Public Information to contribute to the celebration of this event and to play a role in raising awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide;

30. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information to contribute to raising the awareness of the international community of the importance of the implementation of the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society;

Network of United Nations information centres

31. *Emphasizes* the importance of the network of United Nations information centres in enhancing the public image of the United Nations and in disseminating messages on the United Nations to local populations, especially in developing countries;

32. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the further rationalization of the network of United Nations information centres,[89] and in this regard recognizes the constraints of further regionalization as described in paragraph 25 of the report;

33. *Stresses* the importance of rationalizing the network of United Nations information centres, and in this regard

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[87] See A/60/687.

[88] See A/C.2/59/3.

[89] A/AC.198/2005/3.

requests the Secretary-General to continue to make proposals in this direction, including through the redeployment of resources where necessary, and to report to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

34. *Reaffirms* that rationalization of United Nations information centres must be carried out on a case-by-case basis in consultation with all concerned Member States in which existing information centres are located, the countries served by those information centres and other interested countries in the region, taking into consideration the distinctive characteristics of each region;

35. *Recognizes* that the network of United Nations information centres, especially in developing countries, should continue to enhance its impact and activities, including through strategic communications support, and calls upon the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of this approach to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

36. *Stresses* the importance of taking into account the special needs and requirements of developing countries in the field of information and communications technology for the effective flow of information in those countries;

37. *Also stresses* that the Department of Public Information, through the network of United Nations information centres, should continue to promote public awareness of and mobilize support for the work of the United Nations at the local level, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations;

38. *Further stresses* the importance of efforts to strengthen the outreach activities of the United Nations to those Member States remaining outside the network of United Nations information centres, and encourages the Secretary-General, within the context of rationalization, to extend the services of the network of United Nations information centres to those Member States;

39. *Stresses* that the Department of Public Information should continue to review the allocation of both staff and financial resources to the United Nations information centres in developing countries, emphasizing the needs of the least developed countries;

40. *Encourages* the network of United Nations information centres to continue to develop web pages in local languages, also encourages the Department of Public Information to provide resources and technical facilities, in particular to those information centres whose web pages are not yet operational, and further encourages host countries to respond to the needs of the information centres;

41. *Takes note* of the proposal by the Secretary-General to work closely with the Governments concerned to explore the possibility of identifying rent-free premises, while taking into account the economic condition of the host countries and bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial resources for the information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

42. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the discussion regarding the creation of a United Nations information centre in Luanda[90] to address the special needs of Portuguese-speaking African countries, welcomes the offer made by the Government of Angola to host the centre as part of the network of United Nations information centres by providing rent-free premises, and encourages the Secretary-General, within the context of rationalization, to take all necessary measures to accommodate those needs;

III

Strategic communications services

43. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information,[85] and in this context reaffirms that the Department of Public Information is the principal department responsible for the implementation of information strategies, as mandated;

44. *Reaffirms* the role of the strategic communications services in devising and disseminating United Nations messages by developing communications strategies, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in full compliance with the legislative mandates;

Promotional campaigns

45. *Recognizes* that promotional campaigns aimed at supporting special sessions and international conferences of the United Nations are part of the core responsibility of the Department of Public Information, welcomes the efforts of the Department to examine creative ways in which it can organize and implement these campaigns in partnership with the substantive departments concerned, using the Millennium Declaration as its guide, and requests the Department to pay particular attention to progress in implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and the outcomes of the major related United Nations summits and conferences in carrying out its activities;

46. *Appreciates* the work of the Department of Public Information in promoting, through its campaigns, issues of importance to the international community, such as United Nations reform, the eradication of poverty, conflict prevention, sustainable development, disarmament, decolonization, human rights, including the rights of women and children and of

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[90] Ibid., para. 40.

persons with disabilities, strategic coordination in humanitarian relief, especially in natural disasters and other crises, HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases, the needs of the African continent, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as dialogue among civilizations, the culture of peace and tolerance and the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and requests the Department, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of these and other important global issues;

47. *Invites* the Department of Public Information to continue to work within the United Nations Communications Group to coordinate the preparation and implementation of communication strategies with the heads of information of the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirtieth session on the activities of the Group;

48. *Stresses* the need to continue the renewed emphasis in support of Africa's development, in particular by the Department of Public Information, in order to promote awareness in the international community of the nature of the critical economic and social situation in Africa and of the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[91]

Role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping operations

49. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure the involvement of the Department of Public Information from the planning stage of future peacekeeping operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, in particular with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations;

50. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and its role, in close cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, in the selection process of public information staff for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and in this regard invites the Department of Public Information to second public information staff who have the necessary skills to fulfil the tasks of the operations or missions, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution in accordance with Chapter XV, Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and to consider views expressed, particularly by host countries, when appropriate, in this regard;

51. *Emphasizes* the importance of the peacekeeping gateway on the United Nations website, and requests the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts in supporting the peacekeeping missions to further develop their websites;

52. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to continue their cooperation in raising awareness of the new realities, successes and challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, especially multidimensional and complex ones, and of the recent surge in United Nations peacekeeping activities, and welcomes efforts by the two Departments to develop and implement a comprehensive communications strategy on current challenges facing United Nations peacekeeping;

53. *Also requests* the Department of Public Information and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to continue to cooperate in implementing an effective outreach programme to explain the policy of the Organization against sexual exploitation and abuse and to inform the public on the outcome of all such cases involving peacekeeping personnel, including cases where allegations are ultimately found to be legally unproven;

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions on the role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping operations;

Role of the Department of Public Information in strengthening dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace as means of enhancing understanding among nations

55. *Recalls* its resolutions on dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace,[92] and requests the Department of Public Information, while ensuring the pertinence and relevance of subjects for promotional campaigns under this issue, to continue to provide the necessary support for the dissemination of information pertaining to dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, as well as the initiative on the Alliance of Civilizations and to take due steps in fostering the culture of dialogue among civilizations and promoting religious and cultural understanding via all mass media, such as the Internet, print, radio and television, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report in this regard to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

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[91] A/57/304, annex.

[92] Resolutions 53/22 and 55/23 on the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, 52/15, by which it proclaimed 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace, 53/25, by which it proclaimed the period 2001–2010 the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 56/6 on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations, and 59/142 on the promotion of religious and cultural understanding, harmony and cooperation.

IV

News services

56. *Stresses* that the central objective of the news services implemented by the Department of Public Information is the timely delivery of accurate, objective and balanced news and information emanating from the United Nations system in all four mass media, namely, print, radio, television and the Internet, to the media and other audiences worldwide, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism, and reiterates its request to the Department to ensure that all news-breaking stories and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of bias;

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the Committee on Information at its thirtieth session proposals, along with their financial implications, to improve the scope of press releases in addition to the existing languages in order to widen the United Nations message, assuring their comprehensiveness and up-to-date nature, bearing in mind budgetary constraints;

58. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Department of Public Information continuing to draw the attention of world media to stories that do not obtain prominent coverage, through the initiative entitled "Ten Stories the World Should Hear More About";

Traditional means of communication

59. *Stresses* that radio remains one of the most cost-effective and far-reaching traditional media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, including development and peacekeeping, with a view to achieving a broad client base around the world;

60. *Notes* that the international radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations is an integral part of the activities of the Department of Public Information, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure its success and to report on its activities to the Committee on Information at its thirtieth session;

61. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to achieve parity in the six official languages in United Nations radio production;

62. *Notes* the efforts being made by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages, with the addition of Portuguese, as well as in other languages where possible;

63. *Welcomes* the efforts being made by the Department of Public Information to produce and disseminate television news video and feature material to broadcasters around the world through satellite distribution and web delivery;

64. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue building partnerships with local, national and regional broadcasters to extend the United Nations message to all the corners of the world in an accurate and impartial way, and requests the Radio and Television Service of the Department to continue to take full advantage of the technological infrastructure made available in recent years;

United Nations website

65. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations website is an essential tool for the media, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, Member States and the general public, and, in this regard, reiterates the continued need for efforts by the Department of Public Information to maintain and improve it;

66. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the Department of Public Information to implement the basic accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities with regard to the United Nations website, calls upon the Department to continue to work towards compliance with all levels of accessibility requirements on all pages of the website with the aim of ensuring its accessibility by persons with different kinds of disabilities, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirtieth session on progress made in this regard;

67. *Reaffirms* the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on United Nations websites, while noting with satisfaction that progress is being made to narrow the gap among different official languages on United Nations websites;

68. *Takes note* of the fact that the multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations website has improved, and in this regard requests the Department of Public Information, in coordination with content-providing offices, to further improve the actions taken to achieve parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website;

69. *Welcomes* the cooperative arrangements undertaken by the Department of Public Information with academic institutions to increase the number of web pages available in some official languages, and requests the Secretary-General to explore additional cost-neutral ways to further extend these cooperative arrangements to include all the official languages of the United Nations;

70. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure, while maintaining an up-to-date and accurate website, the adequate distribution of financial and human resources within the Department of Public Information allocated to the United Nations website among all official languages, taking into consideration the specificity of each official language on a continuous basis;

71. *Recalls* paragraph 74 of its resolution 60/109 B, and in this regard reiterates that all content-providing offices in the Secretariat should continue their efforts to translate into all official languages all English language materials and databases

posted on the United Nations website and to make them available on the respective language websites in the most practical, efficient and cost-effective manner;

72. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take full advantage of recent developments in information technology in order to improve, in a cost-effective manner, the expeditious dissemination of information on the United Nations, in accordance with the priorities established by the General Assembly in its resolutions and taking into account the linguistic diversity of the Organization;

73. *Recognizes* that some official languages use non-Latin and bidirectional scripts and that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations are based on Latin script, which leads to difficulties in processing non-Latin and bidirectional scripts, and requests the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Information Technology Services Division of the Department of Management, to continue its efforts to ensure that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations fully support Latin, non-Latin and bidirectional scripts in order to enhance the equality of all official languages on the United Nations website;

74. *Notes with satisfaction* that United Nations webcast services provide live video of United Nations meetings and events, which is also available in the original language in which it is delivered;

75. *Welcomes* the electronic mail-based United Nations News Service, distributed worldwide in the English and French languages through e-mail by the Department of Public Information, and requests the Department as a matter of priority to continue to examine ways to provide this service in all official languages;

76. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to work within the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and other appropriate inter-agency bodies to establish a United Nations gateway, an inter-agency search facility in which all entities of the United Nations system should be encouraged to participate, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions on the activities of the High-level Committee on Management in this regard;

V

Library services

77. *Welcomes* the progress made in implementing the programmes outlined in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Modernization and integrated management of United Nations libraries: update on new strategic directions";[93]

78. *Calls upon* the Department of Public Information to continue to lead the Steering Committee for the Modernization and Integrated Management of United Nations Libraries, and requests the member libraries of the Steering Committee to continue to coordinate closely in the implementation of its programme of work;

79. *Takes note* of the steps taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and the other member libraries of the Steering Committee to align their activities, services and outputs more closely with the goals, objectives and operational priorities of the Organization;

80. *Reiterates* the need to maintain a multilingual collection of books, periodicals and other materials in hard copy, accessible to Member States, including publications on peace and security and development-related issues, ensuring that the Dag Hammarskjöld Library continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities;

81. *Recognizes* the importance of the depository libraries in disseminating information and knowledge about United Nations activities, and, in this connection, urges the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, in its capacity as the focal point, to continue to take the initiatives necessary to strengthen such libraries by providing regional training and other assistance and by improving their role with the aim of strengthening their support to users in developing countries;

82. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirtieth session on the activities of the Steering Committee and the work of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, including on the application of measures to enhance the effectiveness of the libraries within existing legislative mandates;

83. *Acknowledges* the role of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, as part of the Outreach Division of the Department of Public Information, in enhancing knowledge-sharing and networking activities to ensure access to the vast store of United Nations knowledge by delegates, permanent missions of Member States, the Secretariat, researchers and depository libraries worldwide, and takes note of the proposal to rename the library the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and Knowledge-Sharing Centre (DHLink), reflecting its new direction;

84. *Notes* the new approaches taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, in particular the Personal Knowledge Management initiative, to assist representatives of Member States and Secretariat staff in the use of information products and tools as a complement to the traditional training programmes;

85. *Recalls* paragraph 44 of its resolution 56/64 B of 24 December 2001, in which it welcomed the role of the Department of Public Information in fostering increased collaboration among libraries of the United Nations system;

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[93] A/AC.198/2006/2.

86. *Encourages* the Secretariat to develop and implement cost-neutral measures to provide Member States with secure access to the information currently accessible only on the Intranet of the Secretariat (iSeek), taking note that Member States have access to iSeek through the facilities of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library;

VI

Outreach services

87. *Acknowledges* that the outreach services provided by the Department of Public Information continue to work towards promoting awareness of the role and work of the United Nations on priority issues;

88. *Welcomes* the educational outreach activities of the Department of Public Information to reach educators and young people worldwide via a range of multimedia platforms;

89. *Notes* the importance of the continued implementation by the Department of Public Information of the ongoing programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as mandated by the General Assembly, and requests the Department to consider how best to maximize the benefits derived from the programme by reviewing, inter alia, its duration and the number of its participants;

90. *Welcomes* the movement towards educational outreach and the orientation of the *UN Chronicle*, both print and online editions, and to this end encourages the *UN Chronicle* to continue to develop co-publishing partnerships, collaborative educational activities and events, including the "Unlearning Intolerance" seminar series, with civil society organizations and institutions of higher learning;

91. *Reaffirms* the important role that guided tours play as a means of reaching out to the general public, including children and students at all levels;

92. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Department of Public Information in organizing exhibitions on important United Nations-related issues within existing mandates at United Nations Headquarters and at other United Nations offices as a useful tool for reaching out to the general public;

93. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to strengthen its role as a focal point for two-way interaction with civil society relating to the priorities and concerns of the Organization;

94. *Commends* the United Nations Correspondents Association for its ongoing activities and for its Dag Hammarskjöld Memorial Scholarship Fund, which sponsors journalists from developing countries to come to the United Nations Headquarters and report on the activities during the General Assembly, and urges donors to extend financial support to the Fund so that it may increase the number of such scholarships to journalists in this context;

95. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts and contribution of United Nations Messengers of Peace, Goodwill Ambassadors and other advocates to promote the work of the United Nations and to enhance international public awareness of its priorities and concerns, and calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to involve them in its communications and media strategies and outreach activities;

96. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its next session on the activities being carried out by the Department of Public Information to enhance the public image of the Organization, especially where there is a component of the network of United Nations information centres;

VII

Final remarks

97. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all reports requested by the Committee on Information are submitted and issued in accordance with the legislative mandate;

98. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirtieth session and to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution;

99. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure that the level of services provided by the Department of Public Information is maintained throughout the period of the implementation of the capital master plan;

100. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

101. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

RESOLUTION 62/112

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/408, para. 7),[94] by a recorded vote of 176 to none, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria,

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[94] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

62/112. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 61/122 of 14 December 2006, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[95]

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned, in accordance with their Charter obligations, to transmit or continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories for which they are respectively responsible, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the Territory and the constitutional relationship of the Territory to the administering Power, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

RESOLUTION 62/113

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/409, para. 7),[96] by a recorded vote of 176 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's

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[95] A/62/67.

[96] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/113. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[97]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991 and 55/146 of 8 December 2000,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and also to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

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[97] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/62/23), chap. V.

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the exploitation of the marine and other natural resources in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration is not in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and does not adversely affect the interests of the peoples of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

12. *Appeals* to trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also appeals to the media to disseminate information about the developments in this regard;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/114

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/410, para. 7),[98] by a recorded vote of 124 to none, with 54 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova,

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[98] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

62/114. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General[99] and the report of the Economic and Social Council[100] on the item,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[101]

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/37 of 27 July 2006,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Also welcoming the participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social sphere, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations resolutions and decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/231 of 22 December 2006 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

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[99] A/62/65.

[100] E/2007/47.

[101] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/62/23), chap. VI.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[99]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

7. *Urges* those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

8. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(*a*) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(*c*) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(*d*) Illegal exploitation of the marine and other natural resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

10. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

11. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

12. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998,[102] calling for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

13. *Requests* the Chairperson of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the President of the Economic and Social Council;

14. *Welcomes* the publication by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests that it be disseminated widely;

15. *Welcomes also* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close

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[102] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21* (E/1998/41), sect. III.G

liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

16. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, inter alia, with the assistance of the relevant specialized agencies;

17. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

18. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

20. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

21. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the necessary measures to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/115

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/411, para. 6)[103]

62/115. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/124 of 14 December 2006,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,[104] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[104]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

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[103] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nigeria, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and United Republic of Tanzania.

[104] A/62/68 and Add.1.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/116

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/412, para. 24)[105]

62/116. Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/114 of 8 December 2005,

Recalling also all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,

Welcoming the adoption of Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007,

Expressing its satisfaction that the parties have met on 18 and 19 June and on 10 and 11 August 2007 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

Calling upon all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

Welcoming in this regard the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[106]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[107]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[107]

2. *Supports strongly* Security Council resolution 1754 (2007), by which the Council called upon the parties to enter into negotiations without preconditions in good faith, taking into account the developments of the last months, with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June and on 10 and 11 August 2007 in the presence of the neighbouring countries under the auspices of the United Nations;

4. *Commends* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and encourages the parties to continue to show political will and a spirit of cooperation in supporting those efforts and to create a propitious atmosphere for dialogue and the success of the negotiations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to

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[105] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Fourth Committee.

[106] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/62/23), chap. VIII.

[107] A/62/128.

continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/117

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/412, para. 24)[108]

62/117. Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia,[109]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia since the signing of the Nouméa Accord of 5 May 1998 by the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[110]

2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and welcomes, in this context, the approval of the territorial Congress in January 2007 to establish the first Kanak Academy, which aims to preserve indigenous languages and dialects;

4. *Acknowledges* those provisions of the Nouméa Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment, and notes that unemployment remains high among Kanaks and that recruitment of foreign mine workers continues;

5. *Notes* the concerns expressed by a group of indigenous people in New Caledonia regarding their underrepresentation in the Territory's governmental and social structures;

6. *Takes note* of the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, according to their regulations;

7. *Notes* the agreement between the signatories of the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

8. *Recalls* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

9. *Welcomes* the strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and the European Union, and notes the European Development Fund assistance in infrastructural, cultural and human resource developments, including vocational training programmes;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;

11. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord, which

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[108] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[109] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/62/23), chap. VIII.

[110] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

12. *Notes* the efforts of the French authorities to resolve the question of voter registration by adopting, in the French Congress of Parliament, on 19 February 2007, amendments to the French Constitution allowing New Caledonia to restrict eligibility to vote in local polls to those voters registered on the 1998 electoral rolls when the Nouméa Accord was signed, thus ensuring strong representation of the Kanak population;

13. *Welcomes* the measures that have been taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

14. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

15. *Notes* the increase by the Government of France in financial assistance to the Territory, amounting to 910 million euros in 2005 for health, education, payment of public-service salaries and funding development schemes;

16. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

17. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, notably the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

18. *Welcomes* the establishment of a new form of cooperation among Australia, France and New Zealand in terms of surveillance of fishing zones, in accordance with the wishes expressed by France during the France-Oceania Summits in July 2003 and June 2006;

19. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

20. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the accession by New Caledonia in October 2006, at the 37th Summit of the Pacific Islands Forum, in Fiji, to the status of associate member of the Pacific Islands Forum, giving the Territory the right to participate in Forum discussions;

21. *Also welcomes* the continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

22. *Further welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

23. *Recalls* the endorsement of the report of the Forum Ministerial Committee on New Caledonia by leaders of the Pacific Islands Forum at its 36th Summit, in October 2005 in Papua New Guinea, and the continuing role of the Forum Ministerial Committee in monitoring developments in the Territory and encouraging closer regional engagements;

24. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

25. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTIONS 62/118 A and B

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/412, para. 24)[111]

62/118. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A

GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[112]

Recalling all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

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[111] The draft resolutions recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee were submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[112] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/62/23), chap. IX.

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV), containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing concern that more than forty-six years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[113] there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2010 and the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[114]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the sentiments of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options of self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Noting the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the stated position of the Government of the United States of America on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration,

Noting also the stated positions of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the Special Committee and in its regional seminars,

Noting further the constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting the internal structure of governance about which the Special Committee has received information,

Aware of the importance both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced also that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, under the aegis of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting that a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by some administering Powers, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, of amending or enacting legislation for application to the Territories, either through Orders in Council, in order to apply to the Territories the international treaty obligations of the administering Power, or through the unilateral application of laws and regulations,

Aware of the importance of the international financial services for the economies of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that United Nations visiting and special missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories, and considering the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers,

Mindful also that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options of self-determination,

Mindful, in this connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters and other venues, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

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[113] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[114] A/56/61, annex.

Mindful also that the 2006 Pacific regional seminar was held on Yanuca Island, Fiji, from 28 to 30 November, and that the 2007 Caribbean regional seminar was held in Saint George's, Grenada, from 22 to 24 May,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and, in this connection, bearing in mind the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action of all United Nations world conferences[115] and special sessions of the General Assembly in the economic and social sphere,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Aware that the Human Rights Committee, as part of its mandate under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[116] reviews the status of the self-determination process, including in small island Territories under examination by the Special Committee,

Recalling the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

Recognizing that the annual background working papers prepared by the Secretariat on developments in each of the small Territories,[117] as well as the substantive documentation and information furnished by experts, scholars, non governmental organizations and other sources, have provided important inputs in updating the present resolution,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection reiterates its long-standing call for the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Requests* the administering Powers to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their respective administering Powers;

6. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and recommends that priority continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

7. *Requests* the Territories and the administering Powers to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories against any degradation, and

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[115] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum); *Report of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Yokohama, Japan, 23–27 May 1994* (A/CONF.172/9), chap. I; *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I; *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex; *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II; *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex; and *Report of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, Durban 31 August–8 September 2001* (A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1), chap. I.

[116] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[117] A/AC.109/2007/2–8, 10 and 14–16.

once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in the Territories;

8. *Welcomes* the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional activities, including the work of regional organizations;

9. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[114] in particular by expediting the application of the work programme for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, as well as by ensuring that periodic analyses are undertaken of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration in each Territory, and that the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on each Territory should fully reflect developments in those Territories;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration, and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Territories, and encourages the administering Powers to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territories;

11. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism within the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the constitutional reviews in the respective Territories administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and led by the territorial Governments, designed to address internal constitutional structures within the present territorial arrangements;

13. *Requests* that the Secretary-General continue to report to the General Assembly on a regular basis on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the First and Second International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism;

14. *Reiterates its request* that the Human Rights Committee collaborate with the Special Committee, within the framework of its mandate on the right to self-determination as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[116] with the aim of exchanging information, given that the Human Rights Committee is mandated to review the situation, including political and constitutional developments, in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are within the purview of the Special Committee;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to collaborate with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, within the framework of their respective mandates, with the aim of exchanging information on developments in those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are reviewed by those bodies;

16. *Also requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

B

INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

I

American Samoa

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa[118] and other relevant information,

Noting the position of the administering Power and the statements made by representatives of American Samoa in the regional seminars expressing satisfaction with the Territory's present relationship with the United States of America,

Noting also that the Department of the Interior of the United States of America provides that the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa,[119]

Noting further that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial Government, and calling upon the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in the diversification of its economy,

Noting that the Territory's non-voting delegate to the Congress of the United States of America has formally requested that the administering Power declare its official position on the status of American Samoa before the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Noting also the statement of the representative of the Governor of the Territory at the Pacific regional seminar, held on Yanuca Island, Fiji, from 28 to 30 November 2006, requesting the Special Committee to review the Territory's status as a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

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[118] A/AC.109/2007/15.

[119] Pursuant to Secretary's Order 2657, Department of the Interior, United States of America.

1. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Future Political Status Study Commission, which began its work in June 2006 and prepared its report in January 2007, to study alternative forms of future political status open to American Samoa and to assess the advantages and disadvantages of each;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the invitation previously extended to the Special Committee by the Governor of American Samoa to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chairperson of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme recommended by the Future Political Status Study Commission in its 2007 report, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in the context of its public education programme;

II

Anguilla

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla[120] and other relevant information,

Recalling the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

Taking note of the constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006, the work of the newly established Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, which prepared its report in August 2006, and the holding of public and other consultative meetings in 2007 on proposed constitutional amendments to be presented to the administering Power,

Aware that the Government intends to continue its commitment to high-end tourism and the implementation of various regulations in the financial services sector,

Noting the participation of the Territory as an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. *Welcomes* the establishment of a new Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, the issuance of its report in 2006 and the holding of public and other consultative meetings early in 2007, with the aim of making recommendations to the administering Power on proposed changes to the Constitution in place in the Territory;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chairperson of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in the context of its public consultative outreach efforts;

III

Bermuda

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda[121] and other relevant information,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005 at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough and meticulous examination of the facts surrounding independence, and regrets that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

2. *Decides* to follow closely the developments concerning the future political status of Bermuda under way in the Territory, and calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in the context of its public education programme;

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[120] A/AC.109/2007/8.

[121] A/AC.109/2007/10.

IV

British Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands[122] and other relevant information,

Recalling the 1993 report of the Constitutional Commissioners, and the 1996 debate on the report in the Legislative Council of the Territory, the establishment of the Constitutional Review Commission in 2004 and the completion in 2005 of its report providing recommendations on constitutional modernization, and noting the debate on the report held in the Legislative Council in 2005,

Noting the statement made at the Pacific regional seminar, held on Yanuca Island, Fiji, from 28 to 30 November 2006, by the representative of the territorial Government, who presented an analysis of the internal constitutional review process and urged the Special Committee to rethink and broaden the concept of self-determination for certain Territories, on a case-by-case basis,

Noting also that the Territory continues to emerge as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres, with unprecedented growth in its financial and tourism services sectors,

1. *Welcomes* the negotiations on constitutional advancement and balance of authority between the administering Power and the territorial Government during 2006–2007 resulting in the draft constitution that was unanimously passed by the Legislative Council of the Territory in May 2007;

2. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by the territorial Government to focus the economic base of the Territory more on local ownership and on professional service industries other than financial services;

3. *Further welcomes* the ongoing work of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the elected Governments of the British Virgin Islands and the United States Virgin Islands as a mechanism for functional cooperation between the two neighbouring Territories;

V

Cayman Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands[123] and other relevant information,

Taking note also of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Commission, which contained a draft constitution for the consideration of the people of the Territory, the 2003 draft constitution offered by the administering Power and the subsequent discussions between the Territory and the administering Power in 2003,

Noting with interest the reopened discussions between the administering Power and the territorial Government in 2006 on constitutional modernization with the aim of ascertaining the views of the people by way of referendum,

Noting that the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Saint George's, Grenada, from 22 to 24 May 2007, discussed the establishment of the Cayman Islands Constitutional Review Secretariat, which had begun its work in March 2007 to raise public awareness and disseminate information about the Territory's constitutional review process,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government that certain cost-of-living issues, such as inflation, are a cause for concern,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in the context of its public awareness outreach efforts;

2. *Welcomes* the announcement made by the territorial Government that it intends to address various cost-of-living issues in a systematic manner;

VI

Guam

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam[124] and other relevant information,

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Recalling also the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

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[122] A/AC.109/2007/3.

[123] A/AC.109/2007/2.

[124] A/AC.109/2007/16.

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act are no longer continuing and that Guam has established a process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Aware of concerns expressed by many residents regarding the potential social and other impacts of the impending transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

Aware also of the Government-wide austerity measures undertaken since February 2007, when the Governor declared a financial "state of emergency",

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

1. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the plebiscite of 1987 and as provided for in Guam law, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government of Guam to enter into negotiations on the matter, and requests the administering Power to inform the Secretary-General of progress to that end;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

4. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes specifically intended to promote the sustainable development of economic activities and enterprises, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

5. *Recalls* the request by the elected Governor to the administering Power to lift restrictions to allow for foreign airlines to transport passengers between Guam and the United States of America to provide for a more competitive market and increased visitor arrivals;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in facilitating public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in support of such efforts;

VII

Montserrat

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat[125] and other relevant information,

Recalling the 2002 report of the Constitutional Review Commission, which contains a series of recommendations on constitutional advancement, including the devolution of power from the appointed Governor to the elected Government, and the call in favour of a free-association arrangement,

Recalling also the convening of a committee of the House of Assembly in 2005 to review the report, and the subsequent discussions between the elected Government and the administering Power on constitutional advancement and devolution of power,

Noting that the development needs prevailing in Montserrat were discussed by the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Saint George's, Grenada, from 22 to 24 May 2007,

Noting also the statements made by participants of the Caribbean regional seminar encouraging the administering Power to commit sufficient resources to meet the Territory's special needs,

Noting with concern the continued consequences of the volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the Territory's population to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

Acknowledging the continued assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

Noting the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

1. *Welcomes* the intention of the territorial Government to negotiate improvements to the present Constitution so as to preserve its ability to move towards greater self-determination at a later stage, and to publish and discuss publicly the Constitution when a final draft, which was expected in the first quarter of 2007, is ready;

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[125] A/AC.109/2007/4.

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in the context of its public outreach efforts;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

VIII

Pitcairn

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn[126] and other relevant information,

Taking into account the unique nature of Pitcairn in terms of population and area,

Noting the position of the representative of the elected Government, as expressed at the 2004 Pacific regional seminar, that the people of the Territory did not fully understand all the possibilities or the significance of the various self-determination options that might be available to them, and that the review of the Constitution was deferred,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the representatives of Pitcairn on how best to support their economic security;

2. *Notes* the position of the representative of the elected Government of the Territory favouring discussions on self-determination in advance of a constitutional review, and considers that a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory would heighten the awareness of the people of their political future;

IX

Saint Helena

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena[127] and other relevant information,

Taking into account the unique character of Saint Helena, its population and its natural resources,

Noting the constitutional review process led by the territorial Government and the consultative poll with regard to a new constitution, held in Saint Helena in May 2005,

Aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial authorities to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the sphere of food production, continuing high unemployment and limited transport and communications,

Noting the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena,

Noting also the importance of the right to nationality for Saint Helenians and their request that it, in principle, be included in the new Constitution,

Noting with concern the problem of unemployment on the island and the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with it,

1. *Welcomes* the continuing constitutional review process and the consultative poll led by the Government of Saint Helena in cooperation with the administering Power;

2. *Also welcomes* the decision by the administering Power to provide funding for the construction of an international airport on Saint Helena to become operational in 2011–2012, including all required infrastructure;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development challenges, including the high unemployment and the problems of limited transport and communications, as well as to support the additional infrastructure required for the airport project;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into account the concerns of Saint Helenians with regard to the right to nationality;

X

Turks and Caicos Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands[128] and other relevant information,

Recalling the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Body, which examined the existing Constitution and made recommendations on the internal structure of government and devolution of power from the appointed Governor to the elected Government, and acknowledging the new Constitution agreed between the administering Power and the territorial Government, its circulation within the Government and among the general public, and its entering into force in August 2006,

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[126] A/AC.109/2007/6.

[127] A/AC.109/2007/14.

[128] A/AC.109/2007/5.

Noting the support for the new Constitution of the Territory among the participants of the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Saint George's, Grenada, from 22 to 24 May 2007,

Noting also that the new Constitution provides for a Governor, who would maintain reserved powers in the Territory, to be appointed by the administering Power,

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

Acknowledging the significant and steady period of economic expansion fuelled by the continuing growth of high-end tourism,

1. *Welcomes* the new Constitution of the Territory, which took effect in August 2006, and notes the emphasis placed by the re-elected territorial Government on economic development and modernization;

2. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts made by the Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of social cohesion across the Territory;

XI

United States Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands[129] and other relevant information,

Acknowledging with interest the upcoming Constitutional Convention, the fifth attempt to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes the internal governance arrangements, as well as the various related efforts in implementing a public education programme on the Constitution, as outlined in a statement by a participant from the Territory presented to the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Saint George's, Grenada, from 22 to 24 May 2007,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular through the upcoming internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, in the context of its public education programme;

3. *Reiterates its call* for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories;

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the elected Governments of the United States Virgin Islands and the British Virgin Islands as a mechanism for functional cooperation between the two neighbouring Territories;

5. *Notes* the position of the territorial Government supporting the ownership and control of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and its calls for the return of those marine resources to its jurisdiction.

RESOLUTION 62/119

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/412, para. 24),[130] by a recorded vote of 175 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former

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[129] A/AC.109/2007/7.

[130] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining: France, United States of America

62/119. Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[131]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular Assembly resolution 61/129 of 14 December 2006,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[132]

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 61/129, in which it requested the Department, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, to prepare an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to disseminate it widely in them,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, in particular the preparation, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/129, of the information leaflet entitled "What the UN Can Do to Assist Non-Self-Governing Territories", issued in March 2007;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to this end, requests the Department of Public Information to empower the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website by including the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(*a*) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(*c*) To explore the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help improve the exchange of information;

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[131] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/62/23), chap. III.

[132] A/56/61, annex.

(*d*) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*e*) To encourage the involvement of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*f*) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/120

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/412, para. 24)[133] and as orally amended, by a recorded vote of 176 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Abstaining: France, United States of America

62/120. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[134]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 61/130 of 14 December 2006, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, by which it declared the period 2001–2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2001,

Reconfirming the need to take measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with interest the cooperation and active participation of some administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

Taking note that the Pacific regional seminar, originally scheduled to convene from 23 to 25 May 2006 in Timor-Leste, was held on Yanuca Island, Fiji, from 28 to 30 November 2006, and that the Caribbean regional seminar was held in Saint George's, Grenada, from 22 to 24 May 2007,

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[133] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[134] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/62/23).

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 55/146, by which it declared the period 2001–2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all necessary steps to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[135]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop and finalize, before the end of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

6. *Commends* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(*a*) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

(*b*) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(*c*) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*d*) To develop and finalize, before the end of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*e*) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*f*) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(*g*) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(*h*) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;[136]

8. *Recognizes* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[137] represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

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[135] Resolution 217 A (III).

[136] See resolution 54/91.

[137] A/56/61, annex.

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance as needed to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

13. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

14. *Calls upon* all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

16. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2007,[134] including the programme of work envisaged for 2008;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

RESOLUTION 62/121

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/412/Add.1, para. 9)[138]

62/121. Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to Tokelau,[139]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 61/127 of 14 December 2006,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Also noting with appreciation the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Recalling the inauguration in 1996 of a national legislative body, the General Fono, based on village elections by universal adult suffrage and the assumption by that body in June 2003 of full responsibility for the Tokelau budget,

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

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[138] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was introduced by the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[139] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/62/23), chap. X.

Recalling that New Zealand and Tokelau signed in November 2003 a document entitled "Joint statement of the principles of partnership", which sets out in writing, for the first time, the rights and obligations of the two partner countries,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association and its decision in August 2005 to hold a referendum on self-government on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a treaty of free association with New Zealand,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau remains firmly committed to the development of its capacity for self-government;

2. *Welcomes* the substantial progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils), in particular the delegation of the Administrator's powers to the three taupulega with effect from 1 July 2004 and the assumption by each taupulega from that date of full responsibility for the management of all its public services;

3. *Recalls* the decision of the General Fono in November 2003, following extensive consultations in all three villages and a meeting of the Special Committee on the Constitution of Tokelau, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association, and the discussions subsequently held between Tokelau and New Zealand pursuant to the General Fono decision;

4. *Recalls also* the decision of the General Fono in August 2005 to hold a referendum on self-government on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a treaty of free association with New Zealand, and notes the enactment by the General Fono of rules for the referendum;

5. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's initiative in devising a strategic economic development plan for the period 2007–2010;

6. *Also acknowledges* the continuing assistance that New Zealand has committed to promoting Tokelau's welfare, as well as the cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme;

7. *Further acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued support from the international community;

8. *Welcomes* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the future development needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to assist this emerging country in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

9. *Also welcomes* the assurance of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligations to the United Nations with respect to Tokelau and abide by the freely expressed wishes of the people of Tokelau with regard to their future status;

10. *Further welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau, and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

12. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau to the Secretary-General;

13. *Notes* the considerable progress made towards the adoption of a Constitution and of national symbols by Tokelau, and the steps taken by Tokelau and New Zealand to agree to a draft treaty of free association as a basis for an act of self-determination;

14. *Also notes* that a referendum to determine the future status of Tokelau held in February 2006 failed to produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change Tokelau's status as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand;

15. *Further notes* the decision of the General Fono to conduct a further referendum to determine the future status of Tokelau from 20 to 24 October 2007;

16. *Commends* the professional and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums, monitored by the United Nations;

17. *Notes* that the October 2007 referendum also failed to produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change Tokelau's status as a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand;

18. *Welcomes* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continue to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people, taking into account the principle of the right to self-determination;

19. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/217

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/403, para. 14)[140]

62/217. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004 and 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006,

Recognizing the remarkable convergence of anniversaries of space activities in 2007, which includes the fiftieth anniversary of the advent of the space age with the launch into outer space of the first artificial Earth satellite, Sputnik I, on 4 October 1957; the fortieth anniversary of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies[141] (Outer Space Treaty), which entered into force on 10 October 1967; the fiftieth session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space; and the fiftieth anniversary of the International Geophysical Year, which is being commemorated by the proclamation of 2007 as International Heliophysical Year,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of mankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all mankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Outer Space Treaty,

Recognizing that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Considering that space debris is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the further development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, which contributes to international cooperation, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in this field,

Convinced of the importance of the recommendations in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held at Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999,[142] and the need to promote the use of space technology towards implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[143]

Seriously concerned about the devastating impact of disasters,[144] which cause the loss of lives and property, displace people from their homes, destroy their livelihoods and cause tremendous damage to societies around the world, and deeply convinced of the urgent need for enhanced coordination efforts at the global level to reduce the impact of disasters,

Convinced that the use of existing space technology, such as Earth observation and meteorological satellites, communications satellites and satellite navigation and positioning systems, and their applications, can play a vital role in supporting disaster management by providing accurate and timely information for decision-making and re-establishing communication in case of disasters,

Desirous of enhancing international coordination at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services for all countries and facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

Convinced that the use of space science and technology and their applications in such areas as telemedicine, tele-education, disaster management, environmental protection and other Earth observation applications contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, particularly poverty eradication,

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[140] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of France (on behalf of the Working Group of the Whole on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

[141] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[142] See *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19–30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1.

[143] See resolution 55/2.

[144] The term "disasters" refers to natural or technological disasters.

Taking note, in that regard, of the fact that the 2005 World Summit recognized the important role that science and technology play in promoting sustainable development,[145]

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fiftieth session,[146]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fiftieth session;[146]

2. *Urges* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[147] to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their domestic law, as well as incorporating them in their national legislation;

3. *Notes* that, at its forty-sixth session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space continued its work,[148] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/111;

4. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee[149] that the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

(*a*) Consider the following as regular agenda items:

(i) General exchange of views;

(ii) Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space;

(iii) Information on the activities of international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations relating to space law;

(iv) Matters relating to:

a. The definition and delimitation of outer space;

b. The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union;

(*b*) Consider the following single issues/items for discussion:

(i) Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;[150]

(ii) Examination and review of the developments concerning the draft protocol on matters specific to space assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment;

(iii) Capacity-building in space law;

(*c*) Consider the general exchange of information on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space in accordance with the workplan adopted by the Committee;

5. *Notes* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, will submit its proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee at its forty-eighth session, in 2009;

6. *Also notes* that, in the context of paragraph 4 (*a*) (ii) above, the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-seventh session, will reconvene its Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space and will review the need to extend the mandate of the Working Group beyond that session of the Subcommittee;

7. *Further notes* that, in the context of paragraph 4 (*a*) (iv) *a.* above, the Legal Subcommittee will reconvene its Working Group on Matters Relating to the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space;

8. *Notes* that, in the context of paragraph 4 (*c*) above, the Legal Subcommittee will consider presentations by Member States of reports on their national legislation, according to the workplan;

9. *Also notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its forty-fourth session, continued its work[151] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/111;

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[145] See resolution 60/1, para. 60.

[146] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20).

[147] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 672, No. 9574); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 961, No. 13810); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1023, No. 15020); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1363, No. 23002).

[148] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), chap. II.D.

[149] Ibid., paras. 216–223.

[150] See resolution 47/68.

[151] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), chap. II.C.

10. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee[152] that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its forty-fifth session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

(*a*) Consider the following items:

(i) General exchange of views and introduction to reports submitted on national activities;

(ii) United Nations Programme on Space Applications;

(iii) Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III);

(iv) Matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment;

(v) Space debris;

(vi) Space-system-based disaster management support;

(vii) Recent developments in global navigation satellite systems;

(*b*) Consider the following items in accordance with the workplans adopted by the Committee:[153]

(i) Use of nuclear power sources in outer space;

(ii) Near-Earth objects;

(iii) International Heliophysical Year 2007;

(*c*) Consider the following single issue/item for discussion: examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries;

11. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its forty-fifth session, will submit its proposal to the Committee for a draft provisional agenda for the forty-sixth session of the Subcommittee, in 2009;

12. *Endorses* the agreement of the Committee, at its fiftieth session, on a new approach to scheduling the symposium organized by the Committee on Space Research and the International Astronautical Federation and the industry symposium organized by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat aimed at strengthening the partnership with industry;[154] and also endorses the recommendation of the Committee that the topic of the 2008 industry symposium should be "Space industry in emerging space nations", to be held during the first week of the forty-fifth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee;[155]

13. *Agrees* that, in the context of paragraphs 10 (*a*) (ii), (iii) and 11 above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its forty-fifth session, should reconvene the Working Group of the Whole;

14. *Also agrees* that, in the context of paragraph 10 (*b*) (i) above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its forty-fifth session, should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space and that the Working Group should continue its work on the topics described in the multi-year workplan as amended by the Subcommittee at its forty-second session and as agreed by the Subcommittee at its forty-fourth session and the Committee at its fiftieth session;[156]

15. *Further agrees* that, in the context of paragraph 10 (*b*) (ii) above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its forty-fifth session, should reconvene its Working Group on Near-Earth Objects, in accordance with the workplan under this item;[157]

16. *Agrees* that the Director of the secretariat of the Group on Earth Observations should be invited to report on a regular basis to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on progress made in the implementation of the ten-year implementation plan for the Global Earth Observation System of Systems and that the Chairman of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems should be invited to report on a regular basis to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on the activities of the Committee;[158]

17. *Endorses* the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2008, as proposed to the Committee by the Expert on Space Applications and endorsed by the Committee;[159]

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[152] Ibid., paras. 169–175.

[153] See A/AC.105/890, annex II, para. 7, for item (i); ibid., annex III, para. 7, for item (ii); and ibid., annex I, para. 22 and A/AC.105/848, annex I, para. 22, for item (iii).

[154] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), para. 170; and A/AC.105/890, annex I, para. 24.

[155] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), para. 171; and A/AC.105/890, annex I, para. 25.

[156] See A/AC.105/848, annex III, para. 8; A/AC.105/890, annex II; and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 129–135.

[157] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), para. 138; and A/AC.105/890, annex III.

[158] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), para. 295.

[159] Ibid., paras. 75 and 84; and A/AC.105/874, sects. II and III and annex III.

18. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with paragraph 30 of General Assembly resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, the African regional centres for space science and technology education, in the French language and in the English language, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, as well as the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Latin America and the Caribbean, entered into an affiliation agreement with the Office for Outer Space Affairs and have continued their education programmes in 2007;

19. *Agrees* that the regional centres referred to in paragraph 18 above should continue to report to the Committee on their activities on an annual basis;

20. *Notes with satisfaction* the contribution being made by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the efforts of Member States and the Office for Outer Space Affairs to promote and support the activities being organized within the framework of the International Heliophysical Year 2007;

21. *Also notes with satisfaction* that the second African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, the first of which was hosted by the Government of Nigeria in collaboration with the Governments of Algeria and South Africa in 2005, was hosted by the Government of South Africa from 2 to 5 October 2007 in Pretoria, and that the Conference will be held on a biennial basis;

22. *Notes with appreciation* that the Government of Ecuador hosted the Fifth Space Conference of the Americas in Quito from 24 to 28 July 2006, and that the pro tempore secretariat of the Fifth Space Conference, mandated to carry out the plan of action of the Conference, has been established by the Government of Ecuador and is being assisted by the Government of Colombia, which had hosted the Fourth Space Conference of the Americas, by the International Group of Experts of the Space Conferences of the Americas and by the Government of Guatemala, which will be the host of the Sixth Space Conference of the Americas, in 2009;

23. *Also notes with appreciation* the initiative of the Government of Chile, in cooperation with the Office for Outer Space Affairs, to hold a conference on space applications and climate change in Santiago on 1 and 2 April 2008, in the context of the International Air and Space Fair;

24. *Notes with satisfaction* the role played by these conferences in building regional and international partnerships among States;

25. *Also notes with satisfaction* that the Convention of the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization entered into force on 12 October 2006, thereby establishing the Organization, with its headquarters in Beijing;

26. *Endorses* the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;[160]

27. *Agrees* that the voluntary guidelines for the mitigation of space debris reflect the existing practices as developed by a number of national and international organizations, and invites Member States to implement those guidelines through relevant national mechanisms;

28. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

29. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

30. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including mitigation of the consequences of disasters, in particular in the developing countries;

31. *Notes* that space science and technology and their applications could make important contributions to economic, social and cultural development and welfare, as indicated in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development",[142] its resolution 59/2 of 20 October 2004 and the Plan of Action of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;[161]

32. *Also notes* the conference "Global Development: Science and Policies for the Future", was held in Vienna on 14 and 15 November 2007, on the occasion of the thirty-fifth anniversary of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis;

33. *Reiterates* that the benefits of space technology and its applications should be prominently brought to the attention, in particular, of the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and

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[160] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 117 and 118 and annex.

[161] See A/59/174, sect. VI.B.

related fields and that the use of space technology should be promoted towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and summits and for implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[143]

34. *Notes with satisfaction* the increased efforts of the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee as well as the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities to promote the use of space science and technology and their applications in carrying out actions recommended in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation");[162]

35. *Urges* entities of the United Nations system, particularly those participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, to examine, in cooperation with the Committee, how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration on the development agenda, particularly in the areas relating to, inter alia, food security and increasing opportunities for education;

36. *Invites* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities to continue to contribute to the work of the Committee and to report to the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on the work conducted at its annual sessions;

37. *Notes with satisfaction* that the open informal meetings, held in conjunction with the annual sessions of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities and in which representatives of member States and observers in the Committee participate, provide a constructive mechanism for an active dialogue between the entities of the United Nations system and member States and observers in the Committee;

38. *Encourages* entities of the United Nations system to participate fully in the work of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities;

39. *Also encourages* the United Nations University, a think tank for the United Nations and several of the specialized agencies, to explore the possibilities of providing training and policy research at the crossroads of international law, climate change and outer space;

40. *Notes with satisfaction* the establishment of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (SPIDER)[163] as a programme within the United Nations to provide universal access to all countries and all relevant regional and international organizations to all types of space-based information and services relevant to disaster management to support the full disaster management cycle and its implementation, highlighting the benefits that such a programme would bring to developing countries, in particular to those countries that suffer frequent disasters and that would benefit from the access to, and from the use of, space-based solutions for disaster management;

41. *Agrees* that the acronym of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response shall be UN-SPIDER, for its easier recognition as a United Nations programme;

42. *Endorses* the UN-SPIDER plan of work for 2007, the platform programme for the period 2007–2009[164] and the plan of work for the period 2008–2009,[165] and requests the Secretary-General to implement those activities that are contained in the plan of work for the period 2008–2009;

43. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, and agrees that during its consideration of the matter, the Committee could continue to consider ways to promote regional and interregional cooperation based on experiences stemming from the Space Conference of the Americas, the African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development and the role space technology could play in the implementation of recommendations of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

44. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Committee established a closer link between its work to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development by contributing to the thematic areas that are addressed by the Commission,[166] and agrees that the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat should be invited to participate in the sessions of the Committee to inform it how it could best contribute to the work of the Commission and that the Director of the Office for Outer Space Affairs should participate in the sessions of the Commission to raise awareness and promote the benefits of space science and technology for sustainable development;

45. *Notes with appreciation* that the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems was established on a voluntary basis as an informal body to promote cooperation, as appropriate, on matters of mutual interest related

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[162] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[163] Resolution 61/110.

[164] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), para. 144.

[165] Ibid., para. 149; and A/AC.105/894.

[166] See A/AC.105/872 and A/AC.105/892.

to civil satellite-based positioning, navigation, timing and value-added services, as well as the compatibility and interoperability of global navigation satellite systems, while increasing their use to support sustainable development, particularly in developing countries, and that it held its first meeting in Vienna, on 1 and 2 November 2006,[167] and its second meeting in Bangalore, India, from 4 to 7 September 2007;

46. *Notes with satisfaction* that UN-SPIDER and the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems were established as concrete results of the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

47. *Notes* the fact that the Office for Outer Space Affairs could integrate into its programme of work a number of actions identified for implementation by the Office in the Plan of Action of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for the further implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III[168] and that some of those actions could be integrated into its programme of work only if additional staff and financial resources were to be provided;[169]

48. *Urges* all Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications to enhance the capacity of the Office for Outer Space Affairs to provide technical and legal advisory services and initiate pilot projects in accordance with the Plan of Action of the Committee, while maintaining the priority thematic areas agreed by the Committee;

49. *Agrees* that the Committee should continue to consider a report on the activities of the International Satellite System for Search and Rescue as a part of its consideration of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee", and invites Member States to report on their activities regarding the System;

50. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, at its fifty-first session, its agenda item entitled "Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status";

51. *Also requests* the Committee, in view of the importance of space and education, to continue to consider, at its fifty-first session, under its agenda item entitled "Space and society", the special theme for the focus of discussions "Space and education", in accordance with the workplan adopted by the Committee;[170]

52. *Agrees* that the Committee should continue to consider, at its fifty-first session, its agenda item entitled "Space and water";

53. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Committee considered, at its fiftieth session, under its agenda item entitled "Other matters", the issue of the future role and activities of the Committee, and agrees that the consideration of the future role and activities of the Committee should be continued at the fifty-first session of the Committee, and in the margin of the forty-fifth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and of the forty-seventh session of the Legal Subcommittee;

54. *Agrees* that the Committee should continue to consider, at its fifty-first session, its agenda item entitled "International cooperation in promoting the use of space-derived geospatial data for sustainable development", in accordance with the multi-year workplan adopted by the Committee;[171]

55. *Acknowledges* the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the period 2008–2009, as reflected in paragraph 50 of its resolution 61/111, and agrees that the Committee and its Subcommittees should elect their officers at their respective sessions in 2008 in accordance with that composition;[172]

56. *Decides* that Bolivia and Switzerland shall become members of the Committee;

57. *Endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the African Organization of Cartography and Remote Sensing;

58. *Notes* that each of the regional groups has the responsibility for actively promoting the participation in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies of the member States of the Committee that are also members of the respective regional groups, and agrees that the regional groups should consider this Committee-related matter among their members;

59. *Requests* entities of the United Nations system and other international organizations to continue and, where appropriate, to enhance their cooperation with the Committee and to provide it with reports on the issues dealt with in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies.

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[167] See A/AC.105/879.

[168] See A/AC.105/L.262.

[169] Ibid., annex, para. 6.

[170] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/58/20), para. 239; and ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 234 and 253.

[171] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/61/20), paras. 301–303; and ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 265 and 281.

[172] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 286 and 287.

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RESOLUTION 62/86

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 10 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.4, para. 10)[1]

62/86. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988 and 54/222 of 22 December 1999, its decision 55/443 of 20 December 2000 and its resolutions 56/199 of 21 December 2001, 57/257 of 20 December 2002, 58/243 of 23 December 2003, 59/234 of 22 December 2004, 60/197 of 22 December 2005 and 61/201 of 20 December 2006 and other resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Recalling also the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[2] including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases,[4]

Recalling the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[5] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[6] the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighth session, held in New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002,[7] the outcome of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Milan, Italy, from 1 to 12 December 2003,[8] the outcome of the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Buenos Aires from 6 to 18 December 2004,[9] the outcome of the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Montreal, Canada, from 28 November to 10 December 2005,[10] and the outcome of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties and the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Nairobi from 6 to 17 November 2006,[11]

Reaffirming the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[12] the Mauritius Declaration[13] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[14]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[15]

Remaining deeply concerned that all countries, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, face increased risks from the negative effects of climate change, and stressing the need to address adaptation needs relating to such effects,

Noting that, to date, there are one hundred and ninety-two parties to the Convention, including one hundred and ninety-one States and one regional economic integration organization,

Noting also that, currently, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[16] has attracted one hundred and seventy-six ratifications, accessions, acceptances or approvals, including by thirty-eight parties included in annex I to the Convention,

Noting further the amendment to annex B to the Kyoto Protocol,[17]

Noting the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the need to build and enhance scientific and technological capabilities, inter alia, through continuing support to the Panel for the exchange of scientific data and information, especially in developing countries,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] Ibid., para. 23.

[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[7] FCCC/CP/2002/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.8.

[8] FCCC/CP/2003/6/Add.1 and 2.

[9] FCCC/CP/2004/10/Add.1 and 2.

[10] FCCC/CP/2005/5/Add.1.

[11] FCCC/CP/2006/5 and Add.1.

[12] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[13] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[14] Ibid., annex II.

[15] See resolution 60/1.

[16] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

[17] FCCC/KP/CMP/2006/10/Add.1, decision 10/CMP.2.

Noting also the significance of the scientific findings of the fourth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which contribute positively to the discussions under the Convention and the understanding of the phenomenon of climate change, including its impacts and risks,

Noting with appreciation the initiative of the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-first session, in having convened the informal thematic debate on "Climate change as a global challenge" from 31 July to 2 August 2007,

Noting also with appreciation the initiative of the Secretary-General in having convened the informal high-level event entitled "The future in our hands: addressing the leadership challenge of climate change" on 24 September 2007, aimed at providing impetus and political support to the Convention and raising awareness of the global challenge of climate change,

Reaffirming its commitment to the ultimate objective of the Convention, namely, to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that prevents dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General [18] transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[19]

1. *Stresses* the seriousness of climate change, and calls upon States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] through the implementation of its provisions;

2. *Notes* that States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[16] welcome the entry into force of the Protocol on 16 February 2005 and strongly urge States that have not yet done so to ratify it in a timely manner;

3. *Takes note* of the outcome of the eleventh[10] and twelfth[11] sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention and the first[10] and second[11] sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the offer of the Government of Indonesia to host the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties and the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, to be held in Bali from 3 to 14 December 2007, and looks forward to a successful outcome, including the advancement of negotiations on the way forward;

5. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the offer of the Government of Poland to host the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties and the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, to be held in Poznań from 1 to 12 December 2008;

6. *Recognizes* that climate change poses serious risks and challenges to all countries, particularly to developing countries, especially the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in Africa, including those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and calls upon States to take urgent global action to address climate change in accordance with the principles identified in the Framework Convention, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and, in this regard, urges all countries to fully implement their commitments under the Convention, to take effective and concrete actions and measures at all levels, and to enhance international cooperation in the framework of the Convention;

7. *Also recognizes* the need to provide financial and technical resources, as well as capacity-building and access to and transfer of technology, to assist those developing countries adversely affected by climate change;

8. *Reaffirms* that efforts to address climate change in a manner that enhances the sustainable development and sustained economic growth of the developing countries and the eradication of poverty should be carried out through promoting the integration of the three components of sustainable development, namely, economic development, social development and environmental protection, as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars, in an integrated, coordinated and balanced manner;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to fulfil the commitments made during the fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund;

10. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the Framework Convention, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[20] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[21] and encourages cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009;

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[18] A/62/276.

[19] Ibid., annex I.

[20] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[21] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

12. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

13. *Invites* the secretariat of the Framework Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

RESOLUTION 62/98

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 17 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419 (Part I), para. 11)[22]

62/98. Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/49 of 28 July 2006, in which the Council requested the United Nations Forum on Forests to conclude and adopt at its seventh session a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests,

1. *Decides* to adopt the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests as contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Invites* members of the governing bodies of the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to support the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, consistent with the mandates of those organizations, and, to that end, invites the United Nations Forum on Forests to provide guidance to the Partnership;

3. *Invites* donor Governments and other countries in a position to do so, financial institutions and other organizations to make voluntary financial contributions to the trust fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests so that the Forum may address, within the context of its multi-year programme of work, the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument and provide support for participants from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to attend its meetings;

4. *Decides* that the Forum will review the effectiveness of the non-legally binding instrument as part of the overall review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests decided upon by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/49.

Annex

Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests

Member States,

Recognizing that forests and trees outside forests provide multiple economic, social and environmental benefits, and emphasizing that sustainable forest management contributes significantly to sustainable development and poverty eradication,

Recalling the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests (Forest Principles);[23] chapter 11 of Agenda 21;[24] the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests; resolutions and decisions of the United Nations Forum on Forests; the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;[25] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[26] the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals; the 2005 World Summit Outcome;[27] and existing international legally binding instruments relevant to forests,

Welcoming the accomplishments of the international arrangement on forests since its inception by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2000/35 of 18 October 2000, and recalling the decision of the Council, in its resolution 2006/49 of 28 July 2006, to strengthen the international arrangement on forests,

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[22] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[23] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex III.

[24] Ibid., annex II.

[25] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[26] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[27] See resolution 60/1.

Reaffirming their commitment to the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[28] including that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, and to the common but differentiated responsibilities of countries, as set out in Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration,

Recognizing that sustainable forest management, as a dynamic and evolving concept, is intended to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental value of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations,

Expressing their concern about continued deforestation and forest degradation, as well as the slow rate of afforestation and forest cover recovery and reforestation, and the resulting adverse impact on economies, the environment, including biological diversity, and the livelihoods of at least a billion people and their cultural heritage, and emphasizing the need for more effective implementation of sustainable forest management at all levels to address these critical challenges,

Recognizing the impact of climate change on forests and sustainable forest management, as well as the contribution of forests to addressing climate change,

Reaffirming the special needs and requirements of countries with fragile forest ecosystems, including those of low-forest-cover countries,

Stressing the need to strengthen political commitment and collective efforts at all levels, to include forests in national and international development agendas, to enhance national policy coordination and international cooperation and to promote intersectoral coordination at all levels for the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests,

Emphasizing that effective implementation of sustainable forest management is critically dependent upon adequate resources, including financing, capacity development and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, and recognizing in particular the need to mobilize increased financial resources, including from innovative sources, for developing countries, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition,

Also emphasizing that implementation of sustainable forest management is also critically dependent upon good governance at all levels,

Noting that the provisions of this instrument do not prejudice the rights and obligations of Member States under international law,

Have committed themselves as follows:

I. Purpose

1. The purpose of this instrument is:

(*a*) To strengthen political commitment and action at all levels to implement effectively sustainable management of all types of forests and to achieve the shared global objectives on forests;

(*b*) To enhance the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular with respect to poverty eradication and environmental sustainability;

(*c*) To provide a framework for national action and international cooperation.

II. Principles

2. Member States should respect the following principles, which build upon the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[28] and the Rio Forest Principles:[23]

(*a*) The instrument is voluntary and non-legally binding;

(*b*) Each State is responsible for the sustainable management of its forests and for the enforcement of its forest-related laws;

(*c*) Major groups as identified in Agenda 21,[29] local communities, forest owners and other relevant stakeholders contribute to achieving sustainable forest management and should be involved in a transparent and participatory way in forest decision-making processes that affect them, as well as in implementing sustainable forest management, in accordance with national legislation;

(*d*) Achieving sustainable forest management, in particular in developing countries as well as in countries with economies in transition, depends on significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources;

(*e*) Achieving sustainable forest management also depends on good governance at all levels;

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[28] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[29] The major groups identified in Agenda 21 are women, children and youth, indigenous people and their communities, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, workers and trade unions, business and industry, scientific and technological communities, and farmers.

(*f*) International cooperation, including financial support, technology transfer, capacity-building and education, plays a crucial catalytic role in supporting the efforts of all countries, particularly developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, to achieve sustainable forest management.

III. Scope

3. The present instrument applies to all types of forests.

4. Sustainable forest management, as a dynamic and evolving concept, aims to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental values of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations.

IV. Global objectives on forests

5. Member States reaffirm the following shared global objectives on forests and their commitment to work globally, regionally and nationally to achieve progress towards their achievement by 2015:

Global objective 1

Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation;

Global objective 2

Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people;

Global objective 3

Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests;

Global objective 4

Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management.

V. National policies and measures

6. To achieve the purpose of the present instrument, and taking into account national policies, priorities, conditions and available resources, Member States should:

(*a*) Develop, implement, publish and, as necessary, update national forest programmes or other strategies for sustainable forest management which identify actions needed and contain measures, policies or specific goals, taking into account the relevant proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and resolutions of the United Nations Forum on Forests;

(*b*) Consider the seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management,[30] which are drawn from the criteria identified by existing criteria and indicators processes, as a reference framework for sustainable forest management and, in this context, identify, as appropriate, specific environmental and other forest-related aspects within those elements for consideration as criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management;

(*c*) Promote the use of management tools to assess the impact on the environment of projects that may significantly affect forests, and promote good environmental practices for such projects;

(*d*) Develop and implement policies that encourage the sustainable management of forests to provide a wide range of goods and services and that also contribute to poverty reduction and the development of rural communities;

(*e*) Promote efficient production and processing of forest products, with a view, inter alia, to reducing waste and enhancing recycling;

(*f*) Support the protection and use of traditional forest-related knowledge and practices in sustainable forest management with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, and promote fair and equitable sharing of benefits from their utilization, in accordance with national legislation and relevant international agreements;

(*g*) Further develop and implement criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management that are consistent with national priorities and conditions;

(*h*) Create enabling environments to encourage private-sector investment, as well as investment by and involvement of local and indigenous communities, other forest users and forest owners and other relevant stakeholders, in sustainable forest management, through a framework of policies, incentives and regulations;

(*i*) Develop financing strategies that outline the short-, medium- and long-term financial planning for achieving sustainable forest management, taking into account domestic, private-sector and foreign funding sources;

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[30] The elements are (i) extent of forest resources; (ii) forest biological diversity; (iii) forest health and vitality; (iv) productive functions of forest resources; (v) protective functions of forest resources; (vi) socio-economic functions of forests; and (vii) legal, policy and institutional framework.

(*j*) Encourage recognition of the range of values derived from goods and services provided by all types of forests and trees outside forests, as well as ways to reflect such values in the marketplace, consistent with relevant national legislation and policies;

(*k*) Identify and implement measures to enhance cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination among sectors affecting and affected by forest policies and management, with a view to integrating the forest sector into national decision-making processes and promoting sustainable forest management, including by addressing the underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation, and by promoting forest conservation;

(*l*) Integrate national forest programmes, or other strategies for sustainable forest management, as referred to in paragraph 6 (*a*) above, into national strategies for sustainable development, relevant national action plans and poverty-reduction strategies;

(*m*) Establish or strengthen partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and joint programmes with stakeholders to advance the implementation of sustainable forest management;

(*n*) Review and, as needed, improve forest-related legislation, strengthen forest law enforcement and promote good governance at all levels in order to support sustainable forest management, to create an enabling environment for forest investment and to combat and eradicate illegal practices, in accordance with national legislation, in the forest and other related sectors;

(*o*) Analyse the causes of, and address solutions to, threats to forest health and vitality from natural disasters and human activities, including threats from fire, pollution, pests, disease and invasive alien species;

(*p*) Create, develop or expand, and maintain networks of protected forest areas, taking into account the importance of conserving representative forests, by means of a range of conservation mechanisms, applied within and outside protected forest areas;

(*q*) Assess the conditions and management effectiveness of existing protected forest areas with a view to identifying improvements needed;

(*r*) Strengthen the contribution of science and research in advancing sustainable forest management by incorporating scientific expertise into forest policies and programmes;

(*s*) Promote the development and application of scientific and technological innovations, including those that can be used by forest owners and local and indigenous communities to advance sustainable forest management;

(*t*) Promote and strengthen public understanding of the importance of and the benefits provided by forests and sustainable forest management, including through public awareness programmes and education;

(*u*) Promote and encourage access to formal and informal education, extension and training programmes on the implementation of sustainable forest management;

(*v*) Support education, training and extension programmes involving local and indigenous communities, forest workers and forest owners, in order to develop resource management approaches that will reduce the pressure on forests, particularly fragile ecosystems;

(*w*) Promote active and effective participation by major groups, local communities, forest owners and other relevant stakeholders in the development, implementation and assessment of forest-related national policies, measures and programmes;

(*x*) Encourage the private sector, civil society organizations and forest owners to develop, promote and implement in a transparent manner voluntary instruments, such as voluntary certification systems or other appropriate mechanisms, to develop and promote forest products from sustainably managed forests harvested in accordance with domestic legislation, and to improve market transparency;

(*y*) Enhance access by households, small-scale forest owners, forest-dependent local and indigenous communities, living in and outside forest areas, to forest resources and relevant markets in order to support livelihoods and income diversification from forest management, consistent with sustainable forest management.

VI. International cooperation and means of implementation

7. To achieve the purpose of the present instrument, Member States should:

(*a*) Make concerted efforts to secure a sustained high-level political commitment to strengthen the means of implementation of sustainable forest management, including financial resources, to provide support, in particular for developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as well as to mobilize and provide significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from private, public, domestic and international sources to and within developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition;

(*b*) Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management;

(*c*) Take action to raise the priority of sustainable forest management in national development plans and other plans, including poverty-reduction strategies, in order to facilitate increased allocation of official development assistance and financial resources from other sources for sustainable forest management;

(*d*) Develop and establish positive incentives, in particular for developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, to reduce the loss of forests, to promote reforestation, afforestation and rehabilitation of degraded forests, to implement sustainable forest management and to increase the area of protected forests;

(*e*) Support the efforts of countries, particularly developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, to develop and implement economically, socially and environmentally sound measures that act as incentives for the sustainable management of forests;

(*f*) Strengthen the capacity of countries, in particular developing countries, to significantly increase the production of forest products from sustainably managed forests;

(*g*) Enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation with a view to promoting international trade in forest products from sustainably managed forests harvested according to domestic legislation;

(*h*) Enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation to address illicit international trafficking in forest products through the promotion of forest law enforcement and good governance at all levels;

(*i*) Strengthen, through enhanced bilateral, regional and international cooperation, the capacity of countries to combat effectively illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources;

(*j*) Strengthen the capacity of countries to address forest-related illegal practices, including wildlife poaching, in accordance with domestic legislation, through enhanced public awareness, education, institutional capacity-building, technological transfer and technical cooperation, law enforcement and information networks;

(*k*) Enhance and facilitate access to and transfer of appropriate, environmentally sound and innovative technologies and corresponding know-how relevant to sustainable forest management and to efficient value-added processing of forest products, in particular to developing countries, for the benefit of local and indigenous communities;

(*l*) Strengthen mechanisms that enhance sharing among countries and the use of best practices in sustainable forest management, including through freeware-based information and communications technology;

(*m*) Strengthen national and local capacity in keeping with their conditions for the development and adaptation of forest-related technologies, including technologies for the use of fuelwood;

(*n*) Promote international technical and scientific cooperation, including South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, in the field of sustainable forest management, through the appropriate international, regional and national institutions and processes;

(*o*) Enhance the research and scientific forest-related capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, particularly the capacity of research organizations to generate and have access to forest-related data and information, and promote and support integrated and interdisciplinary research on forest-related issues, and disseminate research results;

(*p*) Strengthen forestry research and development in all regions, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, through relevant organizations, institutions and centres of excellence, as well as through global, regional and subregional networks;

(*q*) Strengthen cooperation and partnerships at the regional and subregional levels to promote sustainable forest management;

(*r*) As members of the governing bodies of the organizations that form the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, help ensure that the forest-related priorities and programmes of members of the Partnership are integrated and mutually supportive, consistent with their mandates, taking into account relevant policy recommendations of the United Nations Forum on Forests;

(*s*) Support the efforts of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to develop and implement joint initiatives.

VII. Monitoring, assessment and reporting

8. Member States should monitor and assess progress towards achieving the purpose of the present instrument.

9. Member States should submit, on a voluntary basis, taking into account the availability of resources and the requirements and conditions for the preparation of reports for other bodies or instruments, national progress reports as part of their regular reporting to the Forum.

VIII. Working modalities

10. The Forum should address, within the context of its multi-year programme of work, the implementation of the present instrument.

RESOLUTION 62/181

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/415, para. 14),[31] by a recorded vote of 166 to 7, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Nauru, Tonga, Vanuatu

62/181. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/184 of 20 December 2006, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/26 of 26 July 2007,

Recalling also its resolutions 59/251 of 22 December 2004 and 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[32] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Recalling, in this regard, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[33] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[33] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

Recalling also the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[34] and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Expressing its concern at the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its grave concern at the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees,

Expressing its concern at the widespread destruction caused by Israel, the occupying Power, to vital infrastructure, including water pipelines and sewage networks, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which, inter alia, pollutes the environment and negatively affects the natural resources of the Palestinian people,

Aware of the detrimental impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially as a result of the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources, and of the dire socio-economic consequences in this regard,

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[31] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Palestine.

[32] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[33] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[34] A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

Aware also of the detrimental impact on Palestinian natural resources being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and of its grave effect on the natural resources and economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people,

Reaffirming the need for the immediate resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, the principle of land for peace, the Quartet performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[35] as endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, and the Arab Peace Initiative[36] for the achievement of a final settlement on all tracks,

Noting the Israeli withdrawal from within the Gaza Strip and parts of the northern West Bank and the importance of the dismantlement of settlements therein as a step towards the implementation of the road map,

Stressing the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Taking note with appreciation of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan,[37]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land and water;

2. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, damage, cause loss or depletion of, or endanger the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion, or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Stresses* that the wall being constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, is contrary to international law and is seriously depriving the Palestinian people of their natural resources, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations mentioned in the 9 July 2004 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice[34] and in resolution ES-10/15;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, with respect to the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease the dumping of all kinds of waste materials in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely the water and land resources, and pose an environmental hazard and health threat to the civilian populations;

7. *Further calls upon* Israel to cease its destruction of vital infrastructure, including water pipelines and sewage networks, which, inter alia, has a negative impact on the natural resources of the Palestinian people;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

RESOLUTION 62/182

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/416, para. 10)[38]

62/182. Information and communication technologies for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004 and 60/252 of 27 March 2006,

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[35] See S/2003/529, annex.

[36] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[37] A/62/75-E/2007/13.

[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

Recalling also the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[39] as endorsed by the General Assembly,[40] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[41] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[42]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[43]

1. *Reaffirms* the strong development orientation of the outcomes of both the Geneva[39] and the Tunis[41] phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, and urges their full implementation;

2. *Also reaffirms* its request to the Economic and Social Council to oversee the system-wide follow-up to the Geneva and Tunis outcomes of the Summit;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, the report being prepared for the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, as mandated by the Council in its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, on the status of implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the Summit.

RESOLUTION 62/183

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/417/Add.1, para. 12),[44] by a recorded vote of 128 to 2, with 51 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

62/183. Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[45] which states, inter alia, that no State may use or encourage the use of unilateral economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Bearing in mind the general principles governing the international trading system and trade policies for development contained in relevant resolutions, rules and provisions of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization,

Recalling its resolutions 44/215 of 22 December 1989, 46/210 of 20 December 1991, 48/168 of 21 December 1993, 50/96 of 20 December 1995, 52/181 of 18 December 1997, 54/200 of 22 December 1999, 56/179 of 21 December 2001, 58/198 of 23 December 2003 and 60/185 of 22 December 2005,

Gravely concerned that the use of unilateral coercive economic measures adversely affects the economy and development efforts of developing countries in particular and has a general negative impact on international economic cooperation and on worldwide efforts to move towards a non-discriminatory and open multilateral trading system,

Recognizing that such measures constitute a flagrant violation of the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter, as well as the basic principles of the multilateral trading system,

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[39] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

[40] See resolution 59/220.

[41] See A/60/687.

[42] See resolution 60/252.

[43] See resolution 60/1.

[44] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Belarus, and Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[45] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[46]

2. *Urges* the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use of unilateral coercive economic measures against developing countries that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations or are inconsistent with the principles of international law as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to condemn and reject the imposition of the use of such measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the imposition of measures of this nature and to study the impact of such measures on the affected countries, including the impact on trade and development;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/184

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/417/Add.1, para. 12),[47] by a recorded vote of 126 to 48, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Marshall Islands, Mexico, Norway, Palau, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia

62/184. International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/178 of 21 December 2001, 57/235 of 20 December 2002, 58/197 of 23 December 2003, 59/221 of 22 December 2004, 60/184 of 22 December 2005 and 61/186 of 20 December 2006 on international trade and development, and recalling also the provisions of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[48] pertaining to trade and related development issues, as well as the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[49] the World Summit on Sustainable Development[50] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[51]

Recalling also its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

Reaffirming the value of multilateralism to the global trading system and the commitment to achieving a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system that contributes to growth, sustainable development and employment generation in all sectors, and emphasizing that bilateral and regional trading arrangements should contribute to the goals of the multilateral trading system,

Stressing the importance of open, transparent, inclusive, democratic and more orderly processes and procedures for the effective functioning of the multilateral trading system, including in the decision-making process, so as to enable developing countries to have their vital interests duly reflected in the outcome of trade negotiations,

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[46] A/62/210.

[47] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[48] See resolution 55/2.

[49] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[50] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[51] See resolution 60/1.

Reiterating that development concerns form an integral part of the Doha Development Agenda, which places the needs and interests of developing and least developed countries at the heart of the Doha Work Programme,[52]

Noting that agriculture lags behind the manufacturing sector in the process of establishment of multilateral disciplines and in the reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers and that, since most of the world's poor make their living from agriculture, the livelihood and standards of living of many of them are seriously jeopardized by the serious distortions in production and trade in agricultural products caused by the high levels of export subsidies, trade-distorting domestic support and protectionism by many developed countries,

Taking note of the report of the Trade and Development Board[53] as well as the report of the Secretary-General,[54]

1. *Expresses serious concern* at the lack of substantial progress on the trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization and considers it a serious setback for the Doha Round, and calls upon the developed countries to demonstrate the flexibility and political will necessary for breaking the current impasse in the negotiations, and also calls upon all members of the World Trade Organization to adhere to the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration,[52] the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 1 August 2004 [55] and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration,[56] which places development at the heart of the multilateral trading system;

2. *Stresses* that in order for the Doha Round to be concluded satisfactorily, the negotiations should result in the establishment of rules and disciplines in the area of agriculture, adhering to the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 1 August 2004 and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

3. *Also stresses* the need for negotiations of the World Trade Organization in non-agricultural market access to live up to the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 1 August 2004 and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

4. *Further stresses* the need for negotiations of the World Trade Organization to make substantial progress in all areas under the single undertaking such as services, rules and trade facilitation so as to ensure that the development concerns of developing countries are fully reflected in any outcome consistent with the development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 1 August 2004 and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

5. *Underlines* the fact that the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations have meant that the space for national economic policy, that is, the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space, and that it is particularly important for developing countries that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments;

6. *Expresses its deep concern* at the imposition of laws and other forms of coercive economic measures including unilateral sanctions against developing countries, which undermine international law and the rules of the World Trade Organization, and also severely threaten the freedom of trade and investment;

7. *Reaffirms* the commitments made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization[52] and at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[57] in this regard calls upon developed countries that have not already done so to provide immediate predictable, duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis to all products originating from all least developed countries by 2008, also calls upon developing countries that are in a position to do so to extend duty-free and quota-free market access to exports of these countries, and in this context reaffirms also the need to consider additional measures for progressive improvement in market access for least developed countries, and reaffirms further the need for members of the World Trade Organization to take additional measures to provide effective market access both at the border and otherwise, including simplified and transparent rules of origin so as to facilitate exports from least developed countries;

8. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to actively pursue the work programme of the World Trade Organization with respect to addressing the trade-related issues and concerns

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[52] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[53] A/62/15 (Parts I–IV) and corrigenda. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 15.*

[54] A/62/266.

[55] World Trade Organization, document WT/L/579. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[56] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(05)/DEC. Available from http://docsonline.wto.org.

[57] See A/CONF.191/13.

affecting the fuller integration of countries with small, vulnerable economies into the multilateral trading system in a manner commensurate with their special circumstances and in support of their efforts towards sustainable development, in accordance with paragraph 35 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration and paragraph 21 of the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

9. *Recognizes* the special problems and needs of the landlocked developing countries within a new global framework for transit transport cooperation for landlocked and transit developing countries, calls, in this regard, for the full and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action,[58] and stresses the need for the implementation of the São Paulo Consensus,[59] in particular paragraphs 66 and 84 thereof, by the relevant international organizations and donors in a multi-stakeholder approach;

10. *Also recognizes* the need to ensure that the comparative advantage of developing countries is not undermined by any form of protectionism, including the arbitrary and abusive use of non-tariff measures, non-trade barriers and other standards to unfairly restrict the access of products of developing countries particularly to developed countries' markets, reaffirms, in this regard, that developing countries should play an increasing role in the formulation of, inter alia, safety, environment and health standards, and recognizes the need to facilitate the increased and meaningful participation of the developing countries in the work of relevant international standard-setting organizations;

11. *Further recognizes* that South-South trade should be enhanced and further market access should continue to stimulate South-South trade;

12. *Recognizes* the role that a successful conclusion of the ongoing third round of negotiations on the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing Countries can play in South-South trade;

13. *Calls for* accelerating the work on the development-related mandate concerning the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights[60] in the Doha Ministerial Declaration, especially on issues of making intellectual property rules fully support the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity;[61] and the issues related to the Agreement and public health afflicting many developing countries, including the least developed countries, especially those issues arising from the HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other epidemics;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present in his report on the implementation of the present resolution the options available with respect to enhancing the role of the United Nations in accelerating the work on the development agenda of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights;

15. *Calls for* facilitating the accession of all developing countries that apply for membership in the World Trade Organization, in particular the least developed countries, as well as countries emerging from conflict that are least developed countries, bearing in mind paragraph 21 of resolution 55/182 of 20 December 2000 and subsequent developments, and also calls for the effective and faithful application of the World Trade Organization guidelines on accession by the least developed countries;

16. *Emphasizes* the need for further work to foster greater coherence between the multilateral trading system and the international financial system, and invites the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in fulfilment of its mandate, to undertake the relevant policy analysis in those areas and to operationalize such work, including through its technical assistance activities;

17. *Invites* donors and beneficiary countries to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on the Aid for Trade Initiative established by the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, which aims to support developing and least developed countries in building their supply and export capacities, including infrastructure and institutions development, and the need to increase their exports, and stresses in this regard the urgent need for its effective operationalization with sufficient additional, non-conditional and predictable funding;

18. *Welcomes* the effort being made for operationalization of the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries with increased additional, non-conditional and predictable financial resources to enhance the export and supply capacities of the least developed countries, and urges the development partners to increase their contributions to the Integrated Framework Trust Fund on a multi-year basis;

19. *Reiterates* the important role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and calls upon the international community to work towards the strengthening of the Conference, to enable it to enhance its

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[58] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

[59] TD/412, part II.

[60] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[61] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

contribution in its three major pillars, namely, consensus-building, research and policy analysis, and technical assistance, especially through increased core resources of the Conference;

20. *Welcomes* the convening of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Accra from 20 to 25 April 2008, and looks forward to the discussion aimed at addressing the opportunities and challenges of globalization for development, especially for developing countries;

21. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with its mandate, to monitor and assess the evolution of the international trading system and of trends in international trade from a development perspective, and, in particular, to analyse issues of concern to developing countries, supporting them in building capacities to establish their own negotiating priorities and negotiate trade agreements, including under the Doha Work Programme;[52]

22. *Reaffirms* the fundamental role that competition law and policy can play for sound economic development and the validity of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices,[62] as well as the important and useful role that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development plays in this field, and decides to convene in 2010, under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, a sixth United Nations conference to review all aspects of the Set;

23. *Urges* donors to provide the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development with the increased resources necessary to deliver effective and demand-driven assistance to developing countries, as well as to enhance their contributions to the trust funds of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries and the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on developments in the multilateral trading system, under the sub-item entitled "International trade and development" of the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions";

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the Director-General of the World Trade Organization for circulation as an official document of the World Trade Organization.

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[62] A/C.2/35/6, annex.

RESOLUTION 62/185

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/417/Add.2, para. 8)[63]

62/185. International financial system and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, both entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity", as well as its resolutions 57/241 of 20 December 2002, 58/202 of 23 December 2003, 59/222 of 22 December 2004, 60/186 of 22 December 2005 and 61/187 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration[64] and its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[65] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[66]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[67]

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

Emphasizing that the international financial system should further sustain economic growth and support sustainable development and hunger and poverty eradication efforts, while allowing for the coherent mobilization of all sources of financing for development, including the mobilization of domestic resources, international investment flows, official development assistance, external debt relief and an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory global trading system,

Stressing the importance of commitment to sound domestic financial sectors, which make a vital contribution to national development efforts, as an important component of an international financial architecture that is supportive of development,

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[63] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[64] See resolution 55/2.

[65] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[66] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[67] See resolution 60/1.

Stressing also that good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development, reiterating in this regard the importance of promoting global economic governance by addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries in order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, and reiterating also that, to this effect, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, finding a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing the market access of developing countries,

Reaffirming the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, stressing to that end the importance of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, and acknowledging the need for continued discussion on the issue of the voting power of developing countries in the Bretton Woods institutions, which remains a concern,

Recognizing the urgent need to enhance the coherence, governance and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems and the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national development efforts to ensure sustained economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Emphasizing the need for additional, stable and predictable financing to assist developing countries to undertake their investment plans and strategies to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing, in this regard, the value of developing innovative sources of financing from various sources, on a public, private, domestic and external basis, to increase and supplement traditional sources of financing,

Welcoming the contribution to the mobilization of resources for development through innovative financing initiatives taken by groups of Member States,[68]

Reiterating the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[69]

2. *Notes* that global economic growth and a stable international financial system, inter alia, can support the ability of developing countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and stresses the importance of cooperative and coordinated efforts by all countries and institutions to cope with the risks of financial instability;

3. *Emphasizes* that economic growth should be further strengthened and sustained, noting that global economic growth depends on national economic growth and that the implementation of sound macroeconomic policies at all levels could significantly contribute to a revitalization of economic growth;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the United Nations playing a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and in discussing international economic and development policies;

5. *Notes* the holding of the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund, in October 2007, stresses the importance of early agreement on a credible and time-bound package of quota and voice reforms in the Fund, reiterates the need to effectively address the issue of enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries in the Bretton Woods institutions, encourages the Bretton Woods institutions to take further and effective measures, and invites the World Bank and the Fund to continue to provide information on this issue, using existing cooperation forums, including those involving Member States;

6. *Reiterates its invitation* to the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the regional development banks and other relevant institutions to further integrate development dimensions into their strategies and policies, consistent with their respective mandates, and to fully implement the principles stated in those strategies and policies, in particular the objectives of pro-poor growth and poverty reduction;

7. *Notes* that developing countries as a whole continue to experience a net outflow of financial resources, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in continuing collaboration with international financial institutions and other relevant bodies, to analyse the range of reasons and consequences for this in his report under this item;

8. *Also notes* that some developing countries have net inflows of financial resources, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in continuing collaboration with international financial institutions and other relevant bodies, to analyse the range of reasons and consequences for this in his report under this item;

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[68] Including the International Drug Purchase Facility-UNITAID, the International Finance Facility for Immunization and a pilot project within the Advance Market Commitment Initiative.

[69] A/62/119.

9. *Takes note* of the efforts of central banks, regulatory bodies and financial institutions to mitigate the global economic impacts of financial volatility resulting from adjustable-rate mortgage losses and related imbalances in developed economies, and encourages those bodies to further continue such efforts;

10. *Underlines* the importance of promoting international financial stability and sustainable growth, and welcomes the efforts undertaken to this end by the International Monetary Fund and the Financial Stability Forum, as well as the consideration by the International Monetary and Financial Committee of ways to sharpen tools designed to promote international financial stability and enhance crisis prevention, inter alia, through an even-handed implementation of surveillance, including at the regional level, and a sharpening of surveillance of capital markets and systemically and regionally important countries, with a view, inter alia, to the early identification of problems and risks, integrating debt sustainability analysis, the fostering of appropriate policy responses, the possible provision of financing and other instruments designed to prevent the emergence or spread of financial crises and further improvements in the transparency of macroeconomic data and statistical information on international capital flows;

11. *Also underlines* the importance of efforts at the national level to increase resilience to financial risk, stresses in this regard the importance of better assessment of a country's debt burden and its ability to service that debt in both crisis prevention and resolution, and welcomes the ongoing work of the International Monetary Fund in assessing debt sustainability;

12. *Recognizes* the need for multilateral surveillance to remain at the centre of crisis prevention efforts and that surveillance should focus not only on crisis-prone countries but also on the stability of the system as a whole;

13. *Reiterates* that measures to mitigate the impact of excessive volatility of short-term capital flows and to improve transparency of and information about financial flows are important and must be considered;

14. *Notes* the impact of financial crises or risk contagion in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, regardless of their size, and in this regard welcomes the efforts of the international financial institutions, in their support to countries, to continuously adapt their array of financial facilities and resources, drawing on a full range of policies, taking into account the effects of economic cycles, as and where appropriate, having due regard to sound fiscal management and the specific circumstances of each case, so as to prevent and respond to such crises in a timely and appropriate way;

15. *Underlines* the importance of competitive and inclusive private and public financial markets in mobilizing and allocating savings towards productive investment and thus making a vital contribution to national development efforts and to an international financial architecture that is supportive of development;

16. *Encourages* regional cooperation, including through the private sector and public-private partnerships, to intermediate between savings and demand for long-term investment in developing countries, including the development, where appropriate, of regional bond markets;

17. *Welcomes* the launching of initiatives, including South-South initiatives and triangular cooperation, to support and accelerate the sustained social and economic development of developing countries;

18. *Invites* the international financial and banking institutions to consider enhancing the transparency of risk-rating mechanisms, noting that sovereign risk assessments made by the private sector should maximize the use of strict, objective and transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis, and encourages relevant development institutions, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue their work on this issue, including its potential impact on the development prospects of developing countries;

19. *Stresses* the importance of strong domestic institutions in promoting business activities and financial stability for the achievement of growth and development, inter alia, through sound macroeconomic policies and policies aimed at strengthening the regulatory systems of the corporate, financial and banking sectors, and also stresses that international cooperation initiatives in those areas should encourage flows of capital to developing countries;

20. *Emphasizes* that it is essential to ensure the effective and equitable participation of developing countries in the formulation of financial standards and codes, underlines the need to ensure their implementation, on a voluntary and progressive basis, as a contribution to reducing vulnerability to financial crisis and contagion, and notes that more than one hundred countries have participated in or agreed to participate in the joint World Bank-International Monetary Fund financial sector assessment programme;[70] and encourages countries that are not yet participating in the programme to consider doing so;

21. *Notes* the proposal to use special drawing rights allocations for development purposes, and considers that any assessment of special drawing rights allocations must respect the Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund and the established rules of procedure of the Fund, which requires taking into account the global need for liquidity at the international level;

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[70] See A/59/218 and Corr.1, para. 15.

22. *Invites* the multilateral and regional development banks and development funds to continue to play a vital role in serving the development needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including through coordinated action, as appropriate, and stresses that strengthened regional development banks and subregional financial institutions add flexible financial support to national and regional development efforts, thus enhancing their ownership and overall efficiency, and are an essential source of knowledge and expertise for their developing-country members;

23. *Calls for* the continued effort of the multilateral financial institutions, in providing policy advice, technical assistance and financial support to member countries, to work on the basis of nationally owned reform and development strategies, to pay due regard to the special needs and implementing capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and to minimize the negative impacts of the adjustment programmes on the vulnerable segments of society, while taking into account the importance of gender-sensitive employment and hunger and poverty eradication policies and strategies;

24. *Stresses* the need to continuously improve standards of corporate and public sector governance, including accounting, auditing and measures to ensure transparency, noting the disruptive effects of inadequate policies;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development".

RESOLUTION 62/186

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/417/Add.3, para. 9)[71]

62/186. External debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005 and 61/188 of 20 December 2006 on external debt crisis and development,

Recalling also the International Conference on Financing for Development and its outcome,[72] which recognizes sustainable debt financing as an important element for mobilizing resources for public and private investment,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000,[73]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[74]

Recalling also its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003,

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies, including in the area of debt management, cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Emphasizing that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, and underlining the importance of debt sustainability and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve national development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and that countries should direct those financial resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt reduction and cancellation, towards activities consistent with poverty eradication, sustained economic growth and sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting with appreciation that the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and bilateral donors have provided significant debt relief to twenty-two heavily indebted poor countries that have reached the completion point under the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative,[75]

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[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[72] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[73] See resolution 55/2.

[74] See resolution 60/1.

[75] Debt relief under the two initiatives is expected to reduce the debt stocks of the 29 heavily indebted poor countries that have reached the decision point by almost 90 per cent. "Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative and Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI) — Status of Implementation", prepared by the staff of the International Development Association and the International Monetary Fund (August 2006).

Noting with satisfaction the improvement in the external debt situation of heavily indebted poor countries but concerned that there remains a number of low- and middle-income developing countries that are still facing difficulties in finding a durable solution to their external debt problems, which could adversely affect their sustainable development,

Welcoming the fact that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative have enabled heavily indebted poor countries to increase their expenditures on health, education and other social services consistent with national priorities, development plans and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Stressing the importance of addressing the challenges of those heavily indebted poor countries that are facing difficulties in reaching the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and expressing concern that some heavily indebted poor countries continue to face substantial debt burdens and need to avoid rebuilding unsustainable debt burdens after reaching the completion point under the Initiative,

Convinced that enhanced market access for goods and services of export interest to developing countries contributes significantly to debt sustainability in those countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[76]

2. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries, since debt financing and relief can contribute to economic growth and development;

3. *Also emphasizes* that creditors and debtors must share responsibility for preventing unsustainable debt situations;

4. *Reiterates* that debt sustainability depends on a confluence of many factors at the international and national levels, emphasizes that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks should continue to be taken into account in debt sustainability analyses, underlines the fact that no single indicator should be used to make definitive judgements about debt sustainability, and, in this regard, while acknowledging the need to use transparent and comparable indicators, invites the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in their assessment of debt sustainability, to take into account fundamental changes caused by, inter alia, natural disasters, conflicts and changes in global growth prospects or in the terms of trade, especially for commodity-dependent developing countries, as well as by the impact of developments in financial markets, and to continue to provide information on this issue using existing cooperation forums, including those involving Member States;

5. *Underlines* the fact that the long-term sustainability of debt depends, inter alia, on the economic growth, mobilization of domestic resources and export prospects of debtor countries and, hence, on the creation of an enabling international environment conducive to development, progress in following sound macroeconomic policies, transparent and effective regulatory frameworks and success in overcoming structural development problems;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the progress under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, calls for their full and timely implementation and the provision of additional resources to ensure that the financial capacity of the international financial institutions is not reduced, and stresses the need for all creditors to participate on an equitable basis, including non-Paris Club and commercial creditors;

7. *Emphasizes* in this regard that debt relief does not replace other sources of financing;

8. *Urges* donors to ensure that their commitments to the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative are additional to existing aid flows, emphasizes that full compensation by donors on the basis of fair burden-sharing for the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative costs of relevant financial institutions is essential, calls for continued support to countries to complete the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative process, and encourages all parties, both creditors and debtors, to fulfil their commitments as rapidly as possible in order to complete the debt relief process;

9. *Notes with concern* that, in spite of the progress achieved, some countries that have reached the completion point of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative have not been able to achieve lasting debt sustainability, stresses the importance of promoting responsible borrowing and lending and the need to help those countries to manage their borrowing and to avoid a build-up of unsustainable debt, including through capacity-building in the area of debt management and the use of grants and concessional loans, underlines the important role of the joint Debt Sustainability Framework of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank for low-income countries in guiding borrowing and lending decisions, and encourages continued review of the Framework, with the full engagement of borrower Governments in an open and transparent manner;

10. *Encourages* further improving the mutual exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, on borrowing and lending among all creditors and borrowers;

11. *Reiterates its invitation* to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to keep the overall implications of

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[76] A/62/151.

the Debt Sustainability Framework for low-income countries under review, calls for transparency in the computation of the country policy and institutional assessments, and takes note of the disclosure of the country performance ratings of the International Development Association that form part of the Framework;

12. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts of the heavily indebted poor countries, calls upon them to continue to strengthen their domestic policies and economic management, inter alia through poverty reduction strategies, and to create a domestic environment conducive to private-sector development, economic growth and poverty reduction, including a stable macroeconomic framework, transparent and accountable systems of public finance, a sound business climate and a predictable investment climate, and in this regard invites creditors, both private and public, that are not yet fully participating in debt relief initiatives to substantially increase their participation, including by providing comparable treatment to the extent possible to debtor countries that have concluded sustainable debt relief agreements with creditors, and invites the international financing institutions and the donor community to continue to provide adequate and sufficiently concessional financing;

13. *Stresses* that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards those objectives;

14. *Calls for* the consideration of additional measures and initiatives aimed at ensuring long-term debt sustainability through increased grant-based financing, cancellation of 100 per cent of the eligible official multilateral and bilateral debt of heavily indebted poor countries and, where appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, significant debt relief or restructuring for low- and middle-income developing countries with an unsustainable debt burden that are not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, as well as the exploration of mechanisms to comprehensively address the debt problems of those countries;

15. *Encourages* the Paris Club, in dealing with the debt of low- and middle-income debtor countries that are not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative to take into account their medium-term debt sustainability in addition to their financing gaps, and takes note with appreciation of the Evian approach of the Paris Club in providing terms of debt relief tailored to the specific needs of debtor countries while preserving debt cancellation for heavily indebted poor countries;

16. *Stresses* the need to significantly address the debt problems of middle-income developing countries, and in this regard stresses the importance of the Evian approach of the Paris Club as a practical means to address this issue, and notes that the current debt sustainability framework used to analyse the debt situation of middle-income countries focuses mostly on medium-term debt dynamics;

17. *Notes* that several developing countries have been able to reduce their external public debt by issuing more domestic debt to pay off foreign currency liabilities, appreciates that, while this switch in debt structure substantially reduces the foreign exchange risk of public debt liabilities, the levels of domestic debt could create other challenges for macroeconomic management and public debt sustainability, and calls for a reinforcing capacity to manage the new levels of domestic debt in order to maintain the overall public debt sustainability;

18. *Also notes* that some low- and middle-income developing countries that are not included in existing debt relief initiatives also experience constraints in mobilizing the resources needed to achieve the internationally agreed development goals;

19. *Invites* creditors and debtors to continue to use, where appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, mechanisms such as debt swaps for alleviating the debt burden of low- and middle-income developing countries with an unsustainable debt burden that are not eligible for the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, and takes note of the discussions and assessment by the Paris Club of the proposal for "Debt for Equity in Millennium Development Goal Projects";

20. *Stresses* the need to continue to take effective measures, preferably within the existing frameworks, to address the debt problems of the least developed countries, including through cancellation of the multilateral and bilateral debt owed by least developed countries to creditors, both public and private;

21. *Invites* donor countries, taking into account country-specific debt sustainability analyses, to continue their efforts to increase bilateral grants to developing countries, which could contribute to debt sustainability in the medium to long term, and recognizes the need for countries to be able to invest, inter alia, in health and education while maintaining debt sustainability;

22. *Notes* that credit-rating agencies play an important role in determining countries' access to international capital markets and the cost of such borrowing, and, in this regard, calls upon the international financial and banking institutions to consider enhancing the transparency of risk-rating mechanisms, and notes that sovereign risk assessments made by the private sector should maximize the use of strict, objective and

transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis;

23. *Welcomes* the efforts of and calls upon the international community to provide flexibility, and stresses the need to continue those efforts in helping post-conflict developing countries, especially those that are heavily indebted and poor, to achieve initial reconstruction for economic and social development;

24. *Also welcomes* the efforts of and invites creditors to provide flexibility to developing countries affected by natural disasters on a case-by-case basis so as to allow them to address their debt concerns;

25. *Further welcomes* the efforts of and calls upon the international community to support institutional capacity-building in developing countries for the management of financial assets and liabilities and to enhance sustainable debt management as an integral part of national development strategies;

26. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in cooperation with the regional commissions, development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders, to continue cooperation in respect of capacity-building activities in developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability;

27. *Invites* the international community, including the United Nations system, to continue efforts to increase financial support in respect of capacity-building activities for developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability, and encourages countries to create transparent and accountable debt management systems;

28. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt problems of developing countries;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the external debt situation and debt-servicing problems of developing countries and a review of debt management capacity-building efforts, particularly those of the United Nations system;

30. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "External debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries".

RESOLUTION 62/187

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/418, para. 12)[77]

62/187. Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus

The General Assembly,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and its resolutions 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, 57/250 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 57/272 and 57/273 of 20 December 2002, 58/230 of 23 December 2003, 59/225 of 22 December 2004, 60/188 of 22 December 2005 and 61/191 of 20 December 2006, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/34 of 26 July 2002, 2003/47 of 24 July 2003, 2004/64 of 16 September 2004, 2006/45 of 28 July 2006 and 2007/30 of 27 July 2007,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[78]

Recalling further its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General,[79]

Taking note also of the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, held in New York from 23 to 25 October 2007,[80]

Taking note further of the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in New York on 16 April 2007,[81]

Welcoming with appreciation the offer of the Government of Qatar to host the follow-up international conference to review the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development, in accordance with paragraph 73 of the Monterrey Consensus[82] and its resolutions 60/188 and 61/191,

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[77] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairperson of the Committee.

[78] See resolution 60/1.

[79] A/62/190 and A/62/217.

[80] A/62/550.

[81] A/62/76-E/2007/55 and Corr.1.

Noting the steps taken by the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-first session to initiate direct intergovernmental consultations of the whole, with the participation of all Member States and the major institutional stakeholders involved in the financing for development process, on all issues related to the review conference,

1. *Decides* that the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus:

(*a*) Will be held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008;

(*b*) Will be held at the highest possible political level, including with the participation of Heads of State or Government, ministers, special representatives and other representatives, as appropriate;

(*c*) Will include plenary meetings and six interactive multi-stakeholder round tables on the themes based on the six major thematic areas of the Monterrey Consensus;[82]

(*d*) Will result in an intergovernmentally agreed outcome;

(*e*) Will also result in summaries of the plenary meetings and of the round-table discussions, to be included in the report of the conference;

2. *Reiterates* that the Review Conference should assess progress made, reaffirm goals and commitments, share best practices and lessons learned and identify obstacles and constraints encountered, actions and initiatives to overcome them and important measures for further implementation, as well as new challenges and emerging issues;

3. *Reaffirms its resolve* to continue to make full use of the existing institutional arrangements for reviewing the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, as set out in paragraph 69 of the Consensus and in line with resolution 57/270 B, including the high-level dialogues convened by the General Assembly and the spring meetings of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, bearing in mind the need to enhance the effectiveness of the follow-up process of the Monterrey Consensus;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus at all levels, and also stresses the importance of their full participation in the follow-up process, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in particular the accreditation procedures and modalities of participation utilized at the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, and in its preparatory process;

5. *Invites* non-governmental organizations and business sector entities to participate in the Review Conference and its preparatory process, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in particular the accreditation procedures and modalities of participation utilized at the Monterrey Conference and in its preparatory process, and decides that:

(*a*) Registration will be open to all non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and to all non-governmental organizations and business sector entities accredited to the Monterrey Conference or to its follow-up process;

(*b*) Interested non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or were not accredited to the Monterrey Conference shall apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the accreditation procedures established during the Conference;

(*c*) The above arrangements concerning participation of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities in the Review Conference and its preparatory process will in no way create a precedent for meetings of the General Assembly;

6. *Reaffirms* the special role that the international financial and trade institutions, in particular the major institutional stakeholders involved in the financing for development process, are invited to play in all aspects of the Review Conference, including their active involvement in its preparatory work, following the experience of the Monterrey Conference;

7. *Calls upon* the regional commissions, with the support of regional development banks and other relevant entities, to hold regional consultations, as appropriate, during the first half of 2008, which would serve to provide inputs to the preparations for the Review Conference;

8. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-second session to continue direct intergovernmental consultations of the whole with the participation of all States and the major institutional stakeholders involved in the financing for development process on all issues related to the Review Conference, and decides that those consultations must be scheduled in advance and must be open, inclusive and transparent;

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[82] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

9. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly to provide a programme of work, from within existing resources, taking into account relevant meetings scheduled for 2008 and their outcomes, including six substantive informal review sessions of the whole on the six thematic areas of the Monterrey Consensus, of a maximum duration of eleven working days plus one working day for informal interactive hearings with representatives of civil society and the business sector during the period from January to June 2008, to be followed by informal consultations on the contents of the outcome document of the Review Conference, with the view to presenting the first draft outcome document by the end of July 2008, followed by informal consultations and drafting sessions, as required, in the period from September 2008 until the holding of the Review Conference;

10. *Further requests* the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the United Nations Secretariat to prepare informal summaries of the review sessions referred to in paragraph 9 above, as inputs to the preparations for the Review Conference;

11. *Invites* Governments and all relevant stakeholders, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, regional development banks and all other relevant regional bodies, to provide substantive inputs to the preparatory process of the Review Conference, including the activities referred to in paragraph 9 above;

12. *Invites* donor Governments and other relevant stakeholders to continue to provide extrabudgetary resources, in particular through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, in order to support the activities involved in the preparations for the Review Conference in 2008, and to support the travel and participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular least developed countries;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit by the end of July 2008 a report on the latest developments related to the review process on financing for development and the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a note on the organization of work of the Review Conference;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session an item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparation of the 2008 Review Conference".

RESOLUTION 62/188

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419 (Part II), para. 10),[83] by a recorded vote of 169 to 8, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Israel, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire

62/188. Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/194 of 20 December 2006 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[84] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

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[83] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[84] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5–16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[85] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[86]

Noting again with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of el Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline and extended to the Syrian coastline,

Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/194 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores;[87]

2. *Reiterates the expression of its deep concern* about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese el Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health, in the country;

4. *Requests* the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of the Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages the Member States and above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

6. *Calls for* the mobilization of international technical and financial assistance through donor support for the creation of an eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration fund, based on voluntary contributions, to support the integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks at el Jiyeh electric power plant;

7. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 62/189

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.1, para. 13)[88]

62/189. Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 of 20 December 2002 and 57/270 A and B of 20 December 2002 and 23 June 2003, respectively, and its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004, 60/193 of 22 December 2005 and 61/195 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[89] Agenda 21,[90] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[91] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[92] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[93] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[94]

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[85] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[86] Ibid., annex II.

[87] A/62/343.

[88] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[89] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[90] Ibid., annex II.

[91] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[92] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[95]

Reaffirming the decisions taken at the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,[96]

Reiterating that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, and reaffirming the continuing need to ensure a balance among economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Noting that challenges remain in achieving the goals of the three pillars of sustainable development,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[97]

Reaffirming the role of full and productive employment and decent work for all as one of the key elements in ensuring the eradication of poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, and the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development for all nations,

Recognizing that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Recalling that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation designated the Commission to serve as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote sustainable development and contribute to the implementation of intergovernmental commitments in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recalling also that the Economic and Social Council should increase its role in overseeing system-wide coordination and the balanced integration of economic, social and environmental aspects of United Nations policies and programmes aimed at promoting sustainable development, and reaffirming that the Commission on Sustainable Development should continue to be the high-level commission on sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Recalling further the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that the Commission, during review years, should discuss the contribution of partnerships towards supporting the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation with a view to sharing lessons learned and best practices, identifying and addressing problems, gaps and constraints, and providing further guidance, including on reporting, during policy years, as necessary,[98]

Recalling that agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification are interlinked and should be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues including means of implementation, as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission,

Recognizing the problems and constraints that African countries are facing in the areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought and desertification, and emphasizing that those problems and constraints should be adequately addressed during the sixteenth session of the Commission,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[99]

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[93] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[94] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[95] See resolution 60/1.

[96] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I.

[97] See resolution 55/2.

[98] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 23 (*e*).

[99] A/62/262.

2. *Reiterates* that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and those contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[93]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility and other intergovernmental organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as major groups, to take action to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and encourages them to report on concrete progress in that regard;

4. *Calls for* the effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and for the fulfilment of the provisions relating to the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Commission on Sustainable Development is the high-level body responsible for sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as a forum for the consideration of issues related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;

6. *Encourages* countries to present, on a voluntary basis, in particular at the Commission's review sessions, national reports focusing on concrete progress in implementation, including achievements, constraints, challenges and opportunities;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;

8. *Encourages* Governments to participate at the appropriate level with representatives, including ministers, from the relevant departments and organizations working in the areas of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification, and Africa, as well as finance, in the sixteenth session of the Commission;

9. *Recalls* the decision of the Commission at its eleventh session that activities during Commission meetings should provide for the balanced involvement of participants from all regions, as well as for gender balance;[100]

10. *Invites* donor countries to consider supporting the participation of representatives from the developing countries in the sixteenth session of the Commission;

11. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of Agenda 21,[90] including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes, in particular for developing countries;

12. *Also reaffirms* the objective of enhancing the participation and effective involvement of civil society and other relevant stakeholders, as well as promoting transparency and broad public participation, in the implementation of Agenda 21;

13. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to coordinate the participation of the relevant major groups in the thematic discussions at the sixteenth session of the Commission and the reporting on the fulfilment of corporate accountability and responsibility with respect to the thematic cluster of issues, in accordance with the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability as envisaged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

15. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote the development of microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, including by means of training, education and skill enhancement, with a special focus on agro-industry as a provider of livelihoods for rural communities;

16. *Requests* the secretariat of the Commission to make arrangements to facilitate the balanced representation of major groups from developed and developing countries in the sessions of the Commission;

17. *Encourages* contributions by the regional implementation meetings and other regional events to the Commission at its sixteenth session;

18. *Invites* the relevant specialized agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations funds and programmes, the Global Environment Facility and international and regional financial and trade institutions, as well as the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[101] and other relevant bodies, to actively participate, within their mandates, in the work of the Commission;

19. *Encourages* Governments and organizations at all levels, as well as major groups, to undertake results-oriented initiatives and activities to support the work of the Commission

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[100] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I, para. 2 (*j*).

[101] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

and to promote and facilitate the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[91] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including through voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership initiatives;

20. *Underlines* the importance of the review of the implementation of the decisions of the thirteenth session of the Commission on water and sanitation;[102]

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the Commission at its sixteenth session, on the basis of appropriate inputs from all levels, to submit thematic reports on each of the six issues contained in the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa, taking into account their interlinkages, while addressing the cross-cutting issues, including means of implementation identified by the Commission at its eleventh session, and also takes into account the relevant provisions of paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of draft resolution I of the eleventh session of the Commission;[96]

22. *Notes* the convening of the Third International Expert Meeting on the Ten-year Framework of Programmes for Sustainable Consumption and Production under the Marrakech Process in Stockholm from 26 to 29 June 2007;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/190

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.1, para. 13),[103] by a recorded vote of 147 to none, with 30 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against: None

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

62/190. Agricultural technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/218 of 23 December 2003, 59/227 of 22 December 2004, 60/193 of 22 December 2005 and 61/195 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[104] Agenda 21,[105] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[106] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[107] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[108] as well as the

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[102] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 9* (E/2005/29), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 13/1.

[103] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[104] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[105] Ibid., annex II.

[106] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[107] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[108] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[109]

Reaffirming the commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming also the goals set in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[110] to halve poverty and hunger by 2015,

Reaffirming further that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of other United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[111]

Recalling also its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

Recognizing that the achievement of many of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, is currently off track in many countries, and emphasizing that vigorous implementation of all development commitments will be needed without delay if the Goals are to be achieved,

Remaining concerned that Africa is the only continent currently not on track to achieve any of the goals of the Millennium Declaration by 2015, and in this regard emphasizing that concerted efforts and continued support are required to fulfil the commitments to address the special needs of Africa,

Noting the preparatory work being carried out by the Commission on Sustainable Development for its next two-year cycle, with the thematic focus on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,

Concerned by the relatively slow progress so far in achieving the above-mentioned goals, especially the hunger target and goals, and recognizing the need to redouble the efforts of the international community in its attempt to reach the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and that enhancing the role of women at all levels and in all aspects of rural development, agriculture, nutrition and food security is imperative and that sustainable agriculture and rural development are essential to the implementation of an integrated approach to increasing food production and enhancing food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way,

Considering the increasing need to innovate in agriculture and food production to adapt, inter alia, to climate change, urbanization and globalization,

Cognizant that technological methods to advance these goals should be sustainable, accessible and of benefit to poor people, taking into account relevant international instruments and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that appropriate, affordable and sustainable agricultural technologies can play an important role in helping Member States alleviate poverty and eradicate hunger,

1. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those in a position to do so, and relevant United Nations organizations to make greater efforts to promote the development and transfer of appropriate technologies in and to developing countries under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms, as well as to support national efforts to foster the effective utilization of local know-how and technology and promote agricultural research and technologies to enable poor rural men and women to increase agricultural productivity and enhanced food security;

2. *Underlines* the need for Member States to make their knowledge and know-how in the field of agricultural technology and agricultural innovation systems more accessible, in particular to poor people, subject to appropriate arrangements;

3. *Reiterates* that the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, in particular as they affect children, is crucial for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and that rural and agricultural development should be an integral part of national and international development policies, calls for

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[109] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[110] See resolution 55/2.

[111] See resolution 60/1.

increased productive investment in rural and agricultural development to achieve food security, in this regard calls for enhanced support for agricultural development and trade capacity-building in the agricultural sector in developing countries, including by the international community and the United Nations system, and encourages support for commodity development projects, especially market-based projects, and for their preparation under the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the contribution made by the Technology for Agriculture initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

5. *Urges* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to support the efforts of Member States, in particular developing countries, to take full advantage of new knowledge in agricultural technology, agricultural innovation, research and development to achieve relevant Millennium Development Goals, specifically the eradication of poverty and hunger;

6. *Calls upon* public and private institutions to further develop improved varieties of crops that are appropriate for various regions, especially those challenged by environmental factors, including climate change, and to develop and manage these crops in a sustainable manner, and calls for further efforts by all stakeholders to ensure that improved crop varieties are made available and affordable to smallholder farmers in a manner consistent with national regulations and relevant international agreements;

7. *Underscores* the importance of support to agricultural research, and calls for continued support to international agricultural research systems, including the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, as well as other relevant international organizations;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of relevant institutions providing effective mechanisms for public-private agricultural advisory services as well as extension, financial and market services to farmers, in particular smallholder farmers, so that the benefits of new knowledge, agricultural innovation systems and improved technology may reach them and be used by them;

9. *Invites* Member States, especially those in a position to do so, and relevant regional and international organizations to allocate financial and technical resources to support the development of efficient, productive and environmentally sound technologies for sustainable agriculture in developing countries;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/191

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.2, para. 7)[112]

62/191. Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[113] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[114] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference,

Reaffirming also the Mauritius Declaration[115] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States ("Mauritius Strategy for Implementation"),[116] adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 14 January 2005,

Recalling its resolutions 59/311 of 14 July 2005, 60/194 of 22 December 2005 and 61/196 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[117]

Welcoming the decision taken by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session[118] to devote one day of its review sessions to the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, focusing on that year's thematic cluster, as well as on any new developments in the sustainable development efforts of small island developing States using existing modalities, and to request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its review session on progress in and obstacles to sustainable development in small island developing States, including recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

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[112] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[113] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[114] Ibid., annex II.

[115] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[116] Ibid., annex II.

[117] See resolution 60/1.

[118] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 9* (E/2005/29), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 13/1.

Welcoming also the convening of one half-day session of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fifteenth session, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/196, to discuss policy options for addressing the barriers and constraints facing small island developing States in the four thematic areas of the session, taking into account the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation conducted during the fourteenth session of the Commission,

Reaffirming that the adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise present significant risks to the sustainable development of small island developing States, that the effects of climate change may threaten the very existence of some of those States and that, therefore, adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change and sea-level rise remains a major priority for small island developing States,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase the level of resources provided to small island developing States for the effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[119]

2. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment of the international community to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[114]

3. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely action for the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration[115] and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,[116] including the further development and operationalization of concrete projects and programmes;

4. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and targets adopted at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions for the means of implementation, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and encourages small island developing States and their development partners to continue to consult widely in order to develop further concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance support for the efforts of small island developing States to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, including through the provision of dedicated sources of financing, capacity-building and the transfer of appropriate technologies to address climate change;

6. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives, within the framework of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to strengthen the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as called for in its resolutions 57/262 of 20 December 2002, 58/213 A of 23 December 2003, 59/229 of 22 December 2004, 59/311, 60/194 and 61/196, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that the Unit is sufficiently and sustainably staffed without delay to undertake its broad range of mandated functions with a view to facilitating the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, within existing resources, including by redeploying resources;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to prepare a report during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly on actions taken to implement paragraph 7 of the present resolution;

9. *Calls for* the provision of new and additional voluntary resources for the revitalization of the Small Island Developing States Information Network;

10. *Requests* the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to intensify efforts aimed at mainstreaming the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in their work programmes and to establish a focal point for matters related to small island developing States within their respective secretariats to support coordinated implementation of the programme of action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance its support for the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity[120] as a set of actions to address characteristics and problems that are specific to islands, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its eighth meeting, in 2006;

12. *Decides* to review progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the

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[119] A/62/279.

[120] UNEP/CBD/COP/8/31, annex I, decision VIII/1, annex.

implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

RESOLUTION 62/192

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.3, para. 8)[121]

62/192. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/214 of 23 December 2003, 59/231 of 22 December 2004, 60/195 of 22 December 2005 and 61/198 of 20 December 2006 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into due consideration its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[122]

Reaffirming the Hyogo Declaration,[123] the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[124] and the common statement of the special session on the Indian Ocean disaster: risk reduction for a safer future,[125] as adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction,

Reaffirming its role of providing policy guidance on the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling that the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction has been serving as the main forum within the United Nations system for devising strategies and policies for disaster reduction and ensuring complementarity of action by agencies involved in disaster reduction, mitigation and preparedness,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular in developing countries,

Emphasizing that disaster risk reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important cross-cutting element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Recognizing the clear relationship between development, disaster risk reduction, disaster response and disaster recovery and the need to continue to deploy efforts in all these areas,

Recognizing also the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to build resilience to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to appropriate, advanced, environmentally sound, cost-effective and easy-to-use technologies so as to seek more comprehensive solutions to disaster risk reduction and to effectively and efficiently strengthen their capabilities to cope with disaster risks,

Recognizing further that certain measures for disaster risk reduction in the context of the Hyogo Framework for Action can also support adaptation to climate change, and emphasizing the importance of strengthening the resilience of nations and communities to natural disasters through disaster risk-reduction programmes,

Stressing the importance of advancing the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development[126] and its relevant provisions on vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster management,

Taking note with great interest and appreciation of the holding at Geneva, from 5 to 7 June 2007, of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction,[127]

Recognizing the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capability to cope with disaster risks,

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[121] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[122] See resolution 60/1.

[123] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 1.

[124] Ibid., resolution 2.

[125] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, annex II.

[126] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[127] See *Acting with Common Purpose: Proceedings of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, 5–7 June 2007* (ISDR/GP/2007/7).

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[128]

2. *Recalls* that the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration[123] and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[124] include the provision of assistance for developing countries that are prone to natural disasters and disaster-stricken States in the transition phase towards sustainable physical, social and economic recovery, for risk-reduction activities in post-disaster recovery and for rehabilitation processes;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the need for a more effective integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies, planning and programming; for the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards; and for a systematic incorporation of risk-reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to increase its efforts to fully implement the commitments of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action;

5. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, international financial institutions, regional bodies and other international organizations, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and volunteers, the private sector and the scientific community, to increase efforts to support, implement and follow up the Hyogo Framework for Action;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites international financial institutions and regional and international organizations, to integrate the goals of and take into full account the Hyogo Framework for Action in their strategies and programmes, making use of existing coordination mechanisms, and to assist developing countries with those mechanisms to design and implement, as appropriate, disaster risk-reduction measures with a sense of urgency;

7. *Also calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites the international financial institutions and regional banks and other regional and international organizations, to support, in a timely and sustained manner, the efforts led by disaster-stricken countries for disaster risk reduction in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes;

8. *Recognizes* that each State has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and for taking effective measures to reduce disaster risk, including for the protection of people on its territory, infrastructure and other national assets from the impact of disasters, including the implementation of and follow-up to the Hyogo Framework for Action, and stresses the importance of international cooperation and partnerships to support those national efforts;

9. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by Member States to develop national and local capacities to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, including through the establishment of national platforms for disaster reduction, and encourages Member States that have not done so to develop such capacities;

10. *Further recognizes* the importance of coordinating climate change adaptation with relevant natural disaster risk-reduction measures, invites Governments and relevant international organizations to integrate these considerations in a comprehensive manner into, inter alia, development plans and poverty eradication programmes, and invites the international community to support the ongoing efforts of developing countries in this regard;

11. *Stresses* that continued cooperation and coordination among Governments, the United Nations system, other organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, are considered essential to address effectively the impact of natural disasters;

12. *Welcomes* the regional and subregional initiatives developed in order to achieve disaster risk reduction, and reiterates the need to further develop regional initiatives and risk-reduction capacities of regional mechanisms where they exist and to strengthen them and encourage the use and sharing of all existing tools;

13. *Also welcomes* the launch of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, a partnership of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system managed by the World Bank on behalf of the participating donor partners and other partnering stakeholders, as a significant initiative to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;

14. *Calls upon* the international community to support the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards;

15. *Takes note with great interest and appreciation* of the holding at Geneva, from 5 to 7 June 2007, of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction,[127] the successor mechanism of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, as a useful forum for Member States and other stakeholders to assess progress made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, enhance awareness of disaster risk reduction, share experiences and learn

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[128] A/62/320.

from good practice, identify remaining gaps and identify actions to accelerate national and local implementation;

16. *Encourages* Member States to increase their commitment to the effective implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, making full use of the Strategy system's mechanisms, such as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of integrating a gender perspective and engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, particularly at the disaster risk-reduction stage;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to those countries that have provided financial support for the activities of the Strategy by making voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction;

19. *Encourages* the international community to continue providing adequate voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund in the effort to ensure adequate support for the follow-up activities to the Hyogo Framework for Action;

20. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the review conducted at the request of Member States on the current usage and feasibility for the expansion of the Trust Fund, inter alia, to assist disaster-prone developing countries in setting up national strategies for disaster risk reduction, which indicated that the Trust Fund is an appropriate vehicle for expanded action of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction system, at the global and regional levels, in support of countries' implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;

21. *Encourages* Governments, multilateral organizations, international and regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, the private sector and civil society to systematically invest in disaster risk reduction with a view to implementing the objectives of the Strategy;

22. *Stresses* the importance of disaster risk reduction and subsequent growing demands on the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the need to review the current methods of financing the secretariat, with a view to stabilizing its financial base, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a proposal for that purpose in his next report on this subject;

23. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the result of the Global Survey of Early Warning Systems,[129] encourages Member States to integrate early warning systems into their national disaster risk-reduction strategies and plans, and invites the international community to support the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in its role in facilitating the development of early warning systems;

24. *Stresses* the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities through, inter alia, the transfer and exchange of experiences and technical knowledge, educational and training programmes for natural disaster risk reduction, access to relevant data and information and the strengthening of institutional arrangements, including community-based organizations;

25. *Emphasizes* the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond emergency relief and to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction, and stresses the importance of implementing programmes related to the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and disaster risk-reduction management in the most vulnerable regions, particularly in developing countries prone to natural disasters;

26. *Stresses* the need to address risk reduction of and vulnerabilities to all natural hazards, including geological and hydrometeorological hazards, in a comprehensive manner;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 62/193

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.5, para. 9)[130]

62/193. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/211 of 23 December 2003, 61/202 of 20 December 2006 and other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[131]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[132]

Reasserting its commitment to promoting desertification control, eradicating extreme poverty, promoting sustainable development in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas and improving the livelihoods of people affected by drought and/or desertification,

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[129] A/62/340.

[130] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[131] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[132] See resolution 60/1.

Determined to build upon the momentum and to boost the spirit of international solidarity generated by the designation of 2006 as the International Year of Deserts and Desertification,

Reaffirming the universal membership of the Convention, and acknowledging that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions in the world,

Emphasizing that desertification seriously threatens the ability of developing countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing that the timely and effective implementation of the Convention would help to achieve these goals,

Concerned about the negative impacts desertification, land degradation, loss of biological diversity and climate change have on each other, while emphasizing the potential benefits of complementarities in addressing these problems in a mutually supportive manner,

Reaffirming the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[133] which recognizes the Convention as one of the tools for poverty eradication,

Recognizing the need to provide the secretariat of the Convention with stable, adequate and predictable resources in order to enable it to continue to discharge its responsibilities in an efficient and timely manner,

Welcoming the decision of the eleventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development to consider, among others, the issue of desertification and drought during its sixteenth and seventeenth sessions,[134]

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Spain for hosting the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in Madrid from 3 to 14 September 2007,

Expressing also its deep appreciation to the Government of Argentina for hosting the fifth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention in Buenos Aires from 12 to 21 March 2007,

Welcoming the offer made by the Government of Turkey to host the seventh session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention in conjunction with the special intersessional session of the Committee on Science and Technology, in Istanbul, from 20 to 29 October 2008,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[135]

2. *Reaffirms its resolve* to support and strengthen the implementation of the Convention[131] with a view to addressing causes of desertification and land degradation, as well as poverty resulting from land degradation, through, inter alia, the mobilization of adequate and predictable financial resources, the transfer of technology and capacity-building at all levels;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its eighth session, in its decision 3/COP.8, of the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018),[136] invites all parties, the secretariat of the Convention and other institutions and supporting bodies to cooperate and coordinate their activities for a successful implementation of the strategy, and also invites all parties to report on the progress made in the implementation of the strategy;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the financial contributions made by Member States and other relevant stakeholders in support of the activities of the Intersessional Intergovernmental Working Group on the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention;

5. *Notes* the request made for an assessment of the Global Mechanism by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations, and looks forward to its findings;[137]

6. *Reiterates its call upon* Governments, where appropriate, in collaboration with relevant multilateral organizations, including the Global Environment Facility implementation agencies, to integrate desertification into their plans and strategies for sustainable development;

7. *Invites* developed countries parties to the Convention and other Governments, multilateral organizations, the private sector and other relevant organizations to make resources available to affected developing countries for the implementation of the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Secretariat to continue its administrative renewal and reform and to streamline its functions in order to fully implement the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit and bring them

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[133] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[134] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 9* (E/2003/29), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I.

[135] A/62/276, annex II.

[136] A/C.2/62/7, annex.

[137] Ibid., sect. F, para. 27.

into line with the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention;

9. *Invites* the States parties to the Convention to provide the new Executive Secretary of the Convention with full support in the fulfilment of his mandate and in promoting the implementation of the Convention;

10. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[138] the Convention on Biological Diversity[139] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities in the work of the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

11. *Also notes* the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session to renew the mandate of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention as a subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties;[140]

12. *Further notes* the decision taken by the Council of the Global Environment Facility in December 2006 to invite the fourth Assembly of the Facility to amend the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility so as to list the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification among the conventions for which the Facility plays the role of financial mechanism;[141]

13. *Recalls* the fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund,[142] stresses the importance of the fulfilment of the commitments made, and emphasizes in this regard the need to continue to allocate adequate financial resources to the focal area of land degradation;

14. *Welcomes* the ongoing process of addressing the issue of adopting the euro as the budgetary and accounting currency of the Convention, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, taking into account the institutional linkage and related administrative arrangements between the Convention secretariat and the United Nations Secretariat, to facilitate the implementation of decisions of the Conference of the Parties related to the protection of the Convention budget against negative effects of currency fluctuations;

15. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention, in coordination with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, to actively prepare for and participate in the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development with a view to ensuring that the Convention core issues, in particular those relating to land degradation, drought and desertification, are duly considered in the context of sustainable development during the deliberations of the review session, with a view to ensuring a successful outcome from the entire cycle of the Commission;

16. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, when setting the dates of its meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development so as to help ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provision for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa";

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including a report on the implementation of the Convention, to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/194

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.6, para. 7)[143]

62/194. Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000, 56/197 of 21 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/260 of 20 December 2002, 58/212 of 23 December 2003, 59/236 of 22 December 2004, 60/202 of 22 December 2005 and 61/204 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also its resolution 61/203 of 20 December 2006 on the International Year of Biodiversity, 2010,

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[138] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[139] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[140] ICCD/COP(8)/16/Add.1, decision 7/COP.8.

[141] Global Environment Facility, document GEF/C.30/7. Available from www.gefweb.org.

[142] Global Environment Facility, document GEF/A.3/6. Available from www.gefweb.org.

[143] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

Reiterating that the Convention on Biological Diversity[144] is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Noting that one hundred and eighty-nine States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Convention and that one hundred and forty-two States and one regional economic integration organization have ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[145]

Recalling the commitments of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require action at all levels, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries,

Concerned by the continued loss of biological diversity, and acknowledging that an unprecedented effort would be needed to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biological diversity,

Noting the need for enhanced cooperation among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[146] and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[147] (the "Rio Conventions"), while respecting their individual mandates, concerned by the negative impacts that loss of biodiversity, desertification, land degradation and climate change have on each other, and recognizing the potential benefits of complementarities in addressing these problems in a mutually supportive manner with a view to achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Acknowledging the contribution that the ongoing work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, of the World Intellectual Property Organization, can make in enhancing the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Noting the contribution that South-South cooperation can make in the area of biological diversity,

Taking note of the reports of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment,[148]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of the Convention;[149]

2. *Encourages* developed countries parties to the Convention[144] to contribute to the relevant trust funds of the Convention, in particular so as to enhance the full participation of the developing countries parties in all of its activities;

3. *Urges* all Member States to fulfil their commitments to significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010, and emphasizes that this will require an appropriate focus on the loss of biodiversity in their relevant policies and programmes and the continued provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries, including through the Global Environment Facility;

4. *Urges* parties to the Convention to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with its provisions;

5. *Notes* the establishment of the Heads of Agencies Task Force on the 2010 Biodiversity Target, as well as the convening of the first meeting of the Chairpersons of the scientific advisory bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions and the Rio Conventions aimed at enhancing scientific and technical collaboration for achieving the 2010 biodiversity target;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[145] to be held in Bonn, Germany, from 12 to 16 May 2008, and the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, to be held in Bonn from 19 to 30 May 2008;

7. *Notes* the progress made in the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing towards elaborating and negotiating the international regime on access and benefit-sharing, stresses the importance of finalizing the negotiations on the international regime on access and benefit-sharing within the framework of the Convention, and urges parties to make every effort to complete negotiations at the earliest possible time, before the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held in 2010;

8. *Takes note* of the establishment by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention of seven thematic programmes of work, and welcomes the work initiated on cross-cutting issues;

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[144] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[145] Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

[146] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[147] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[148] Available from http://millenniumassessment.org.

[149] A/62/276, annex III.

9. *Reaffirms* the commitment, subject to national legislation, to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization;

10. *Stresses* the importance of private-sector engagement for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention and the achievement of the 2010 target, and invites businesses to align their policies and practices more explicitly with the objectives of the Convention, including, inter alia, through partnerships;

11. *Takes note* of initiatives for the enhanced implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, in particular those that are promoted by developing countries;

12. *Invites* parties to the Convention, other Governments, relevant international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to make preparations to celebrate in 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity;

13. *Takes note* of the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[147] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[148] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and further encourages continuing cooperation in order to promote complementarities among the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

14. *Invites* the countries that have not yet done so to ratify or to accede to the Convention;

15. *Invites* countries to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;[150]

16. *Invites* the parties to the Convention that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to consider doing so, reiterates the commitment of States parties to the Protocol to support its implementation, and stresses that this will require the full support of parties and of relevant international organizations, in particular with regard to the provision of assistance to developing countries in capacity-building for biosafety;

17. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

RESOLUTION 62/195

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.7 and Corr.1, para. 8)[151]

62/195. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fourth session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 56/193 of 21 December 2001, 57/251 of 20 December 2002, 58/209 of 23 December 2003, 59/226 of 22 December 2004, 60/189 of 22 December 2005 and 61/205 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[152]

Recognizing the need for more efficient environmental activities in the United Nations system, and noting the need to consider possible options to address this need, including through the ongoing informal consultative process on the institutional framework for United Nations environmental activities,

Taking into account Agenda 21[153] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[154]

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment, which should take into account, within its mandate, the sustainable development needs of developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition,

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[150] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-first Session, Rome, 2–13 November 2001* (C 2001/REP), appendix D.

[151] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[152] See resolution 60/1.

[153] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[154] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Emphasizing that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recognizing the need to accelerate implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[155] including through the provision of additional financial resources for that purpose,

Noting the proposal made by the Government of Egypt to establish an international centre for judicial capacity-building in environmental law in Cairo,[156]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fourth session[157] and the decisions contained therein;[158]

2. *Notes* the publication of the fourth *Global Environment Outlook: Environment for Development* by the United Nations Environment Programme;[159]

3. *Decides* to declare the decade 2010–2020 as the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification, based on the recommendation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its twenty-fourth session;[160]

4. *Notes* that the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its twenty-fourth session discussed all components of the recommendations on international environmental governance as contained in its decision SS.VII/1, and also notes the continued discussions scheduled for the twenty-fifth session of the Governing Council;[157]

5. *Stresses* the need to further advance and fully implement the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[155] in this regard calls upon Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to provide the necessary funding and technical assistance, and also calls upon the United Nations Environment Programme to continue its efforts to fully implement the Bali Strategic Plan through strengthened cooperation with other stakeholders, based on their comparative advantages;

6. *Recognizes* the progress made so far in the implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management,[161] particularly through its Quick Start Programme,[162] and invites Governments, regional economic integration organizations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to engage actively and cooperate closely to support the Strategic Approach implementation activities of the United Nations Environment Programme, including the Quick Start Programme, including through providing adequate resources;

7. *Also recognizes* the global challenges posed by mercury, and, in this regard, notes the decision by the Governing Council to establish an ad hoc open-ended working group of Governments, regional economic integration organizations and stakeholder representatives to review and assess options for enhanced voluntary measures and new or existing international legal instruments,[163] taking into account the terms of reference and the priorities set out in that decision, and urges Governments and other stakeholders to continue and enhance their support of the United Nations Environment Programme mercury programme partnerships through the provision of technical and financial resources;

8. *Emphasizes* the need to further enhance coordination and cooperation among the relevant United Nations organizations in the promotion of the environmental dimension of sustainable development, and welcomes the continued active participation of the United Nations Environment Programme in the United Nations Development Group and the Environment Management Group;

9. *Also emphasizes* the need for the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate, to further contribute to sustainable development programmes, the implementation of Agenda 21[153] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[154] at all levels, and to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the mandate of the Commission;

10. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the United Nations Environment Programme in shifting emphasis from delivery of outputs to achievement of results within its budget

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[155] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

[156] See UNEP/GC/24/12, annex V.

[157] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/62/25).

[158] Ibid., annex I.

[159] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.III.D.19.

[160] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/62/25), annex I, decision 24/14; see also General Assembly resolution 61/185 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67.

[161] See the report of the International Conference on Chemicals Management on the work of its first session (SAICM/ICCM.1/7), annexes I–III.

[162] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/62/25), annex I, decision 24/3.

[163] Ibid., decision 24/3, para. 28.

and programme of work, and also welcomes, in this regard, decision 24/9 of the Governing Council on the budget and programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme;[164]

11. *Notes* the request by the Governing Council to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to prepare, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, a medium-term strategy for the period 2010–2013;[165]

12. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme, as recommended by the intergovernmental consultation on strengthening the scientific base of the Programme, including the reinforcement of the scientific capacity of developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in the area of protection of the environment, including through the provision of adequate financial resources;

13. *Notes* the ongoing consultations with a view to improving further the proposed Environment Watch strategy as an integral part of the wider strategic vision of the United Nations Environment Programme;[166]

14. *Reiterates* the need for stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and, in accordance with Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), underlines the need to consider the adequate reflection of all administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget;

15. *Invites* Governments that are in a position to do so to increase their contributions to the Environment Fund;

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Environment Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Programme and to the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session".

RESOLUTION 62/196

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.8, para. 7)[167]

62/196. Sustainable mountain development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998, by which it proclaimed 2002 the International Year of Mountains,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/189 of 20 December 2000, 57/245 of 20 December 2002, 58/216 of 23 December 2003 and 60/198 of 22 December 2005,

Reaffirming chapter 13 of Agenda 21[168] and all relevant paragraphs of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[169] in particular paragraph 42 thereof, as the overall policy frameworks for sustainable development in mountain regions,

Noting the Bishkek Mountain Platform,[170] the outcome document of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, held in Bishkek from 28 October to 1 November 2002, which was the concluding event of the International Year of Mountains,

Noting also the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions ("Mountain Partnership"), launched during the World Summit on Sustainable Development, with benefits from the committed support of forty-eight countries, fifteen intergovernmental organizations and eighty-three organizations from major groups, as an important approach to addressing the various interrelated dimensions of sustainable development in mountain regions,

Noting further the conclusions of the global meetings of the members of the Mountain Partnership, held, respectively, in

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[164] Ibid., *Supplement No. 25* (A/62/25), annex I.

[165] Ibid., decision 24/9, para. 13.

[166] Ibid., decision 24/1, sect. III.

[167] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Montenegro, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

[168] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[169] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[170] A/C.2/57/7, annex.

Merano, Italy, in October 2003 and in Cusco, Peru, in October 2004, and the first Andean Meeting of the Andean Initiative, held in San Miguel Tucuman, Argentina, in September 2007,

Noting the outcome of the meeting of the Adelboden Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in Mountain Regions, which met in Rome from 1 to 3 October 2007,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on sustainable mountain development;[171]

2. *Notes with appreciation* that a growing network of Governments, organizations, major groups and individuals around the world recognize the importance of the sustainable development of mountain regions for poverty eradication, and recognizes the global importance of mountains as the source of most of the Earth's freshwater, as repositories of rich biological diversity and other natural resources, including timber and minerals, as providers of some sources of renewable energy, as popular destinations for recreation and tourism and as areas of important cultural diversity, knowledge and heritage, all of which generate positive, unaccounted economic benefits;

3. *Recognizes* that mountains provide indications of global climate change through phenomena such as modifications of biological diversity, the retreat of mountain glaciers and changes in seasonal runoff that may impact major sources of freshwater in the world, and stresses the need to undertake actions to minimize the negative effects of these phenomena;

4. *Recognizes also* that sustainable mountain development is a key component in achieving the Millennium Development Goals in many regions of the world;

5. *Notes with concern* that there remain key challenges to achieving sustainable development, eradicating poverty in mountain regions and protecting mountain ecosystems, and that populations in mountain regions are frequently among the poorest in a given country;

6. *Encourages* Governments to adopt a long-term vision and holistic approaches in their sustainable development strategies, and to promote integrated approaches to policies related to sustainable development in mountain regions;

7. *Also encourages* Governments to integrate mountain sustainable development in national, regional and global policymaking and development strategies, including through incorporating mountain-specific requirements in sustainable development policies or through specific mountain policies;

8. *Notes* that the growing demand for natural resources, including water, the consequences of erosion, deforestation and other forms of watershed degradation, the occurrence of natural disasters, as well as increasing out-migration, the pressures of industry, transport, tourism, mining, agriculture and the consequences of global climate change are some of the key challenges in fragile mountain ecosystems to implementing sustainable development and eradicating poverty in mountain regions, consistent with the Millennium Development Goals;

9. *Underlines* the importance of sustainable forest management, the avoidance of deforestation, as well as the restoration of lost and degraded forest ecosystems of mountains in order to enhance the role of mountains as natural carbon and water regulators;

10. *Notes* that sustainable agriculture in mountain regions is important for the protection of the mountain environment and the promotion of the regional economy;

11. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in mountain regions, especially those in developing countries, and urges the international community to take concrete steps to support national and regional efforts to ensure the sustainable development of mountains;

12. *Encourages* Governments, the international community and other relevant stakeholders to improve the awareness, preparedness and infrastructure to cope with the increasing impact of disasters in mountain regions, such as flash floods, including glacial lake outburst floods, as well as landslides, debris flow and earthquakes;

13. *Encourages* Governments, with the collaboration of the scientific community, mountain communities and intergovernmental organizations, where appropriate, to study, with a view to promoting sustainable mountain development, the specific concerns of mountain communities, including the effects of global climate change on mountain environments and biological diversity, in order to elaborate sustainable adaptation strategies to cope with the adverse effects of climate change;

14. *Underlines* the fact that action at the national level is a key factor in achieving progress in sustainable mountain development, welcomes its steady increase in recent years with a multitude of events, activities and initiatives, and invites the international community to support the efforts of developing countries to develop and implement strategies and programmes, including, where required, enabling policies and laws for the sustainable development of mountains, within the framework of national development plans;

15. *Encourages* the further establishment of committees or similar multi-stakeholder institutional arrangements and mechanisms at the national and regional levels, where

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[171] A/62/292.

appropriate, to enhance intersectoral coordination and collaboration for sustainable development in mountain regions;

16. *Also encourages* the increased involvement of local authorities, as well as other relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, in the development and implementation of programmes, land-use planning and land tenure arrangements, and activities related to sustainable development in mountains;

17. *Underlines* the need for improved access to resources, including land, for women in mountain regions as well as the need to strengthen the role of women in mountain regions in decision-making processes that affect their communities, cultures and environments;

18. *Encourages*, in this regard, Governments and intergovernmental organizations to integrate the gender dimension, including, inter alia, gender disaggregated indicators, in mountain development activities, programmes and projects;

19. *Stresses* that indigenous cultures, traditions and knowledge, including in the field of medicine, are to be fully considered, respected and promoted in development policy and planning in mountain regions, and underlines the importance of promoting the full participation and involvement of mountain communities in decisions that affect them and of integrating indigenous knowledge, heritage and values in all development initiatives;

20. *Underscores* the need to take into account relevant articles of the Convention on Biological Diversity;[172]

21. *Recognizes* that many developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition need to be assisted in the formulation and implementation of national strategies and programmes for sustainable mountain development, through bilateral, multilateral and South-South cooperation, as well as through other forms of collaborative approaches;

22. *Notes* that funding for sustainable mountain development has become increasingly important, especially in view of the greater recognition of the global importance of mountains and the high level of extreme poverty, food insecurity and hardship facing mountain communities;

23. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility, all relevant United Nations conventions and their funding mechanisms, within their respective mandates, and all relevant stakeholders from civil society and the private sector to consider providing support, including through voluntary financial contributions, to local, national and international programmes and projects for sustainable development in mountain regions, particularly in developing countries;

24. *Underlines* the importance for sustainable development in mountains of exploring a wide range of funding sources, such as public-private partnerships, increased opportunities for microfinance, including microcredit and microinsurance, small housing loans, savings, education and health accounts, and support for entrepreneurs seeking to develop small- and medium-sized businesses and, where appropriate, on a case-by-case basis, debt for sustainable development swaps;

25. *Notes* that public awareness needs to be raised with respect to the positive and unaccounted economic benefits that mountains provide, and underlines the importance of enhancing the sustainability of ecosystems that provide essential resources and services for human well-being and economic activity and of developing innovative means of financing for their protection;

26. *Recalls with satisfaction* the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity of a programme of work on mountain biological diversity,[173] the overall purpose of which is the significant reduction of the loss of mountain biological diversity by 2010 at the global, regional and national levels, and its implementation, which aims at making a significant contribution to poverty eradication in mountain regions;

27. *Recognizes* that mountain ranges are usually shared among several countries, and in this context encourages transboundary cooperation approaches, where the States concerned agree, to the sustainable development of mountain ranges and information-sharing in this regard;

28. *Notes with appreciation*, in this context, that the Convention on the Protection of the Alps[174] promotes constructive new approaches to integrated, sustainable development of the Alps, including through its thematic protocols on spatial planning, mountain farming, conservation of nature and landscape, mountain forests, tourism, soil protection, energy and transport, as well as its Declaration on Population and Culture;

29. *Also notes with appreciation* the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians,[175] adopted and signed by the seven countries of the region to provide a framework for cooperation and multisectoral policy coordination, a platform for joint strategies for sustainable development and a forum for dialogue between all involved stakeholders;

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[172] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[173] UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, decision VII/27, annex.

[174] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1917, No. 32724.

[175] Available from www.carpathianconvention.org/text.htm.

30. *Further notes with appreciation* the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, which promotes transboundary cooperation among eight regional member countries of the Himalaya Hindu Kush region to foster action and change for overcoming mountain peoples' economic, social and physical vulnerability;

31. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in Mountain Regions project of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the statement of the Adelboden Group in promoting specific policies, appropriate institutions and processes for mountain regions, and the positive, unaccounted economic benefits they provide;

32. *Stresses* the importance of building capacity, strengthening institutions and promoting educational programmes in order to foster sustainable mountain development at all levels and to enhance awareness of challenges to and best practices in sustainable development in mountain regions and in the nature of relationships between highland and lowland areas;

33. *Encourages* the development and implementation of global, regional and national communication programmes to build on the awareness and momentum for change created by the International Year of Mountains in 2002 and the opportunity provided annually by International Mountain Day on 11 December;

34. *Also encourages* Member States to collect and produce information and to establish databases devoted to mountains so as to capitalize on knowledge to support interdisciplinary research, programmes and projects and to improve decision-making and planning;

35. *Further encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to further enhance their constructive efforts to strengthen inter-agency collaboration to achieve more effective implementation of the relevant chapters of Agenda 21,[168] including chapter 13, and paragraph 42 and other relevant paragraphs of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[169] taking into account the efforts of the Inter-Agency Group on Mountains and the need for the further involvement of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations University, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as international financial institutions and other relevant international organizations;

36. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Mountain Partnership implemented in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/61 of 25 July 2003, invites the international community and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to consider participating actively in the Mountain Partnership to increase its value added, and invites the Partnership secretariat to report on its activities and achievements to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixteenth session in 2008, including in regard to the thematic issues of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa;

37. *Notes with appreciation* in this context the efforts of the Mountain Partnership to cooperate with existing multilateral instruments relevant to mountains, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[176] the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[177] the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and mountain-related regional instruments such as the Convention on the Protection of the Alps and the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians;

38. *Takes note with appreciation* of the offer of the Government of Kyrgyzstan to host a second Bishkek Global Mountain Summit in October 2009, and of the invitation to Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to take part in such a summit;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, under a sub-item entitled "Sustainable mountain development" of the item entitled "Sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 62/197

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/419/Add.9, para. 9)[178]

62/197. Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999 and 55/205 of 20 December 2000, and recalling also its resolutions 56/200 of 21 December 2001, 58/210 of 23 December 2003 and 60/199 of 22 December 2005, on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[179]

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[176] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[177] Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[178] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[179] See resolution 60/1.

Noting that the World Solar Programme 1996–2005 made a contribution to raising awareness of the increased role that new and renewable sources of energy can play in the global energy supply,

Reiterating the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[180] and of Agenda 21,[181] and recalling the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[182] concerning energy for sustainable development,

Recalling the holding of the Beijing International Renewable Energy Conference on 7 and 8 November 2005, in follow-up to the International Conference for Renewable Energies, held in Bonn, Germany, from 1 to 4 June 2004, and noting the offer of the Government of the United States of America to convene the Washington International Renewable Energy Conference from 6 to 8 March 2008,

Welcoming initiatives that aim to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services for sustainable development in order to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Emphasizing that the increased use and promotion of all forms of new and renewable energy for sustainable development, including solar-thermal, photovoltaic, biomass, wind, hydro, tidal, ocean and geothermal forms, could make a significant contribution towards the achievement of sustainable development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Acknowledging that increased use of new and renewable sources of energy could offer important options for the provision of energy for sustainable development and increased access to modern energy services,

Noting that, in addition to increasing the efficiency of energy production and use, expanding the use of new and renewable sources of energy and advanced clean energy technology offers options that could improve global and local environmental conditions,

Recognizing the contributions of new and renewable sources of energy to the reduction of greenhouse gases and addressing climate change, which poses serious risks and challenges,

Noting that the global demand for energy continues to rise, while recognizing that the share of energy derived from new and renewable resources remains considerably below its significant potential, and underscoring in this regard the need to tap new and renewable sources of energy,

Emphasizing the need to take further action to mobilize the provision of adequate financial resources, of sufficient quality and arriving in a timely manner, as well as the transfer of advanced technology to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for providing efficient and wider use of energy sources, in particular new and renewable sources of energy,

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing the need for the creation of an enabling environment at all levels for investment and sustained financing,

Acknowledging that the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council continue to play a pivotal role as forums for the discussion of new and renewable sources of energy and sustainable development,

Welcoming efforts by Governments and institutions that have embarked on policies and programmes that seek to expand the use of new and renewable energy for sustainable development, and recognizing the contributions of regional initiatives, institutions and regional economic commissions in supporting the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in this respect,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[183]

2. *Reaffirms* the need for the full implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[182] as the intergovernmental framework for energy for sustainable development;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources for sustainable development, and takes into consideration the diversity of situations, national policies and specific needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

4. *Also emphasizes* the need to intensify research and development in support of energy for sustainable development, which will require increased commitment on the part of Governments and all other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, including the private sector, civil society and international

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[180] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[181] Ibid., annex II.

[182] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[183] A/62/208.

organizations, to deploy financial and human resources for accelerating research efforts;

5. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy resources, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources, which could meet the growing need for energy services in the longer term to achieve sustainable development;

6. *Encourages* global, regional and national initiatives on new and renewable energies to promote access to energy, including new and renewable sources of energy, for the poorest and to improve energy efficiency and conservation by resorting to a mix of available technologies, taking fully into account the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation concerning energy for sustainable development;

7. *Calls upon* Governments to take further action to mobilize the provision of financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building and the diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the African countries in promoting the development, production and use of new and renewable sources of energy, recognizing the special needs of Africa for reliable and affordable energy supplies and services;

9. *Also calls upon* the international community to support the least developed countries, the landlocked developing countries and the small island developing States in their efforts to develop and utilize energy resources, including new and renewable energy, inter alia, through financial and technical assistance;

10. *Reiterates its call* for all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to continue to support, as appropriate, efforts aimed at the development of the energy sector in developing countries and countries with economies in transition on the basis of environment-friendly new and renewable sources of energy of demonstrated viability, while taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries, and to assist in the attainment of the levels of investment necessary to expand energy supplies, including beyond urban areas;

11. *Notes and encourages* ongoing activities related to the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy within the United Nations system;

12. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to raise awareness of the importance of energy for sustainable development, including the need for the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy and of the increased role they can play in the global energy supply, particularly in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;

13. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the mobilization of financial resources, in a stable and predictable manner, and technical assistance, and to enhance the effectiveness and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects in the area of new and renewable sources of energy;

14. *Stresses* that the wider use and exploration of available and additional new and renewable sources of energy require technology transfer and diffusion on a global scale, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy".

RESOLUTION 62/198

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/420, para. 12)[184]

62/198. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 57/275 of 20 December 2002, 58/226 and 58/227 of 23 December 2003, 59/239 of 22 December 2004, 60/203 of 22 December 2005 and 61/206 of 20 December 2006,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/62 of 25 July 2003 and Council decisions 2004/300 of 23 July 2004, 2005/298 of 26 July 2005, 2006/247 of 27 July 2006 and 2007/249 of 26 July 2007,

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[184] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration [185] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation") [186] to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Recalling also the Habitat Agenda,[187] the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[188] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[189]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[190] which calls upon the States Members of the United Nations to achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, recognizing the urgent need for the provision of increased resources for affordable housing and housing-related infrastructure, prioritizing slum prevention and slum upgrading, and to encourage support for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and its Slum Upgrading Facility,

Recognizing the significance of the urban dimension of poverty eradication and the need to integrate water and sanitation and other issues within a comprehensive framework for sustainable urbanization,

Recognizing also the importance of decentralization policies for achieving sustainable human settlements development in line with the Habitat Agenda and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Acknowledging the importance of the seminal findings on the scale and pace of the urbanization of poverty and deprivation contained in the report entitled *State of the World's Cities 2006–2007: the Millennium Development Goals and Urban Sustainability – 30 Years of Shaping the Habitat Agenda*[191] and the *Global Report on Human Settlements 2007: Enhancing Urban Safety and Security*,[192]

Recognizing the negative impact of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements,

Conscious of the unique opportunity provided by the Cities Without Slums Initiative mentioned in the Millennium Declaration for realizing economies of scale and substantial multiplier effects in helping to attain the other internationally agreed development goals,

Welcoming the offer of the Government of China and the city of Nanjing to host the fourth session of the World Urban Forum from 13 to 17 October 2008,

Recognizing the need for UN-Habitat to sharpen its focus on all areas within its mandate,

Recognizing also the continued need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to ensure timely, effective and concrete global implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation,

Acknowledging the ongoing efforts of UN-Habitat towards more sustainable post-disaster and post-conflict reconstruction and recovery through its participation in the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs,

Noting the efforts of UN-Habitat in strengthening its collaboration with the World Bank, the regional development banks and domestic financial institutions, ensuring that its policy advisory and capacity-building activities leverage investment finance to improve water and sanitation as an entry point to the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda[193] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat);[194]

2. *Encourages* Governments to consider an enhanced approach to achieving the Cities Without Slums Initiative mentioned in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[185] by upgrading existing slums and creating policies and programmes, according to national circumstances, to forestall the growth of future slums, and in this regard invites the international donor community and multilateral and regional development banks to

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[185] See resolution 55/2.

[186] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[187] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[188] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[189] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[190] See resolution 60/1.

[191] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.06.III.Q.3.

[192] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.III.Q.1.

[193] E/2007/58.

[194] A/62/219.

support the efforts of developing countries, inter alia, through increased voluntary financial assistance;

3. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the sound and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[187] the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium[188] and the Millennium Declaration, and stresses the need for the international community to implement fully its commitment to support Governments of developing countries in their efforts to develop inclusive urban development and urban poverty reduction strategies, through the provision of the requisite resources, capacity-building, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the creation of an international enabling environment;

4. *Welcomes* the vision, sharpened thematic focus and emphasis on management excellence of the UN-Habitat medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008–2013,[195] and encourages ongoing efforts towards its effective implementation, including through improvements in the internal operations and programme management of UN-Habitat;

5. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts of UN-Habitat to develop a results-based and less fragmented budget structure with a view to securing maximum efficiency, accountability and transparency in programme delivery regardless of funding source;

6. *Takes note* of the decision of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat to enable UN-Habitat to undertake from 2007 to 2011 a four-year phase of experimental reimbursable seeding operations and other innovative financing arrangements, as defined in Governing Council resolution 21/10,[196] bearing in mind the provisions of the special annex for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation appended by the Secretary-General to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[197] and taking into consideration the relevant elements of the operational procedures and guidelines;

7. *Notes* the approval by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat of the guidelines on decentralization and strengthening of local authorities,[198] and requests UN-Habitat to assist interested Governments in adapting the guidelines to their national contexts, where appropriate, and in further developing tools and indicators as part of its support for the application of the guidelines, bearing in mind that the guidelines do not constitute a uniform or rigid blueprint applicable to all States Members of the United Nations;

8. *Encourages* relevant United Nations bodies and other international and regional organizations to mainstream the guiding principles on access to basic services for all,[199] within the context of human settlements, in their development policies and programmes, and requests UN-Habitat to assist interested Governments in adapting the guiding principles and any guidelines adopted by the Governing Council to their national contexts, where appropriate;

9. *Encourages* Governments to promote the principles and practice of sustainable urbanization as a major contribution to mitigating the causes of climate change, adapting to the effects of climate change and reducing risks and vulnerabilities in a rapidly urbanizing world, including human settlements in fragile ecosystems, and invites the international donor community to support the efforts of developing countries in this regard;

10. *Calls for* continued financial support to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary contributions, and invites Governments in a position to do so to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support programme implementation;

11. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, the Slum Upgrading Facility and the technical cooperation trust funds to enable UN-Habitat to assist developing countries in mobilizing public investment and private capital for slum upgrading, shelter and basic services;

12. *Also invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to support the experimental reimbursable seeding operations trust fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review so as to enhance its effectiveness in supporting national policies, strategies and plans in attaining the poverty eradication, gender equality, water and sanitation and slum upgrading targets of the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[186] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome;[190]

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to UN-Habitat and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

15. *Acknowledges* contributions of the regional consultative initiatives, including conferences of ministers in the area of human settlements, for the implementation of the

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[195] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/62/8), annex I.B, resolution 21/2.

[196] Ibid., annex I.B.

[197] ST/SGB/2006/8.

[198] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/62/8), annex I.B, resolution 21/3.

[199] Ibid., resolution 21/4.

Habitat Agenda and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, and invites the international community to continue to support such efforts and the implementation of the outcomes of those initiatives;

16. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to strengthen efforts to coordinate and implement its normative and operational activities through the enhanced normative and operational framework elaborated in the medium-term strategic and institutional plan, reinforcing its normative activities, and invites all countries in a position to do so to support the activities of UN-Habitat in this regard;

17. *Requests* UN-Habitat to promote, in consultation with national Governments, urban poverty reduction within the framework of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the common country assessment and to align its policy advisory and capacity-building activities with the World Bank, regional development banks, other financial institutions, regional organizations and other relevant partners to field-test innovative policies, practices and pilot projects in order to mobilize resources to increase the supply of affordable credit for slum upgrading and other pro-poor human settlements development in developing countries;

18. *Also requests* UN-Habitat to encourage collaboration among all the Habitat Agenda partners on analytical policy work, including the preparation of its flagship reports and monitoring activities, and to identify opportunities for strengthening joint programmes of work on capacity-building for the reduction of urban poverty, including on "localizing the Millennium Development Goals";

19. *Reiterates its invitation* to all Governments to participate actively in the fourth session of the World Urban Forum, and invites donor countries to support the participation of representatives from developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, including women and young people, in the Forum;

20. *Requests* UN-Habitat, through its involvement in the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs and through contacts with relevant United Nations agencies and partners in the field, to promote the early involvement of human settlements experts in the assessment and development of prevention, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes to support the efforts of developing countries affected by natural disasters and complex humanitarian emergencies;

21. *Also requests* UN-Habitat, within its mandate, to continue to work closely with other relevant agencies of the United Nations system, and strongly reiterates its invitation to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to consider including UN-Habitat in its membership, acknowledging the important role and contribution of UN-Habitat in supporting the efforts of countries affected by natural disasters and complex emergencies to develop prevention, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes for the transition from relief to development;

22. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen or establish, as appropriate, broad-based national Habitat committees with a view to mainstreaming sustainable urbanization and urban poverty reduction in their respective national development strategies;

23. *Encourages* the Economic and Social Council to include in its high-level discussions the issues of sustainable urbanization, urban poverty reduction and slum-upgrading, including access to basic services for all and further mainstreaming access by the poor to water and sanitation as a key contribution to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

RESOLUTION 62/199

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/421/Add.1, para. 8)[200]

62/199. Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000, 56/209 of 21 December 2001, 57/274 of 20 December 2002, 58/225 of 23 December 2003, 59/240 of 22 December 2004, 60/204 of 22 December 2005 and 61/207 of 20 December 2006 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome[201] and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in the economic, social and related fields, including General

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[200] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[201] See resolution 60/1.

Assembly resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Emphasizing the need to fully implement the global partnership for development and enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement the commitments made in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields,

Reaffirming that development is a central goal by itself and that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of United Nations activities,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Reaffirming also the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[202] to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people,

Recognizing that globalization, driven largely by economic liberalization and technology, implies that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders and that maximizing in an equitable manner the benefits of globalization requires developing responses to globalization through a strengthened global partnership for development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming the commitment to eradicate poverty and hunger and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all and to promote the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization,

Reaffirming also its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into reduction of poverty and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting that particular attention must be given, in the context of globalization, to the objective of protecting, promoting and enhancing the rights and welfare of women and girls, as stated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[203]

Reaffirming its commitment to governance, equity and transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and its commitment to open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial systems,

Reaffirming the importance of migration as a phenomenon, among others, accompanying increased globalization, including its impact on economies, aware of the fact that all countries are impacted by international migration, and hence stressing the crucial importance of dialogue and cooperation so as to better understand the international migration phenomenon, including its gender perspective, and to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[204]

2. *Recognizes* that some countries have successfully adapted to the changes and benefited from globalization, but that many others, especially the least developed countries, have remained marginalized in the globalizing world economy, and also that, as stated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[202] the benefits are very unevenly shared while costs are unevenly distributed;

3. *Also recognizes* that domestic economies are now interwoven with the global economy and that globalization affects all countries in different ways, and that countries on the one hand have trade and investment opportunities to, inter alia, fight poverty, while on the other face constraints in the degree of flexibility they have in pursuing their national development strategies;

4. *Further recognizes* that, while all countries face such constraints, developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and African countries, have greater difficulties in balancing international obligations, processes and rules with their national development strategies;

5. *Underlines* the fact that, in addressing the linkages between globalization and sustainable development, particular focus should be placed on identifying and implementing mutually reinforcing policies and practices that promote sustained economic growth, social development and environmental protection and that this requires efforts at both the national and international levels;

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[202] See resolution 55/2.

[203] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[204] A/62/303.

6. *Also underlines* the fact that the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations have meant that the space for national economic policy, that is, the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space and that it is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments, and in this regard notes with appreciation the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the concept of policy space, as articulated in the São Paulo Consensus[205] and the World Summit Outcome;[201]

7. *Reaffirms* that good governance is essential for sustainable development, that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation, and that freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing;

8. *Also reaffirms* that good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development, that, in order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance by addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries and that, to this end, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing the market access of developing countries;

9. *Further reaffirms* that each country has primary responsibility for its own development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development and that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

10. *Underlines* the fact that, while recognizing the commitment of developing countries to their international duties and obligations, internationally agreed rules and disciplines should take into account lessons learned and current developments in implementation in the light of the special situation of developing countries, and in this regard reiterates the need for continuing flexibility and special provisions for developing countries as international financial and trade institutions formulate and implement rules and regulations to create an enabling international economic environment for sustained growth and broad-based development;

11. *Stresses* that all countries need to maintain their right to pursue policies based on their social, political, economic and environmental conditions and that, in this regard, countries, in particular developing countries, need flexibility and national policy space that are compatible with their specific development conditions, taking into account international obligations, processes and rules;

12. *Acknowledges* the need for continuing flexibility and special provisions for developing countries in the multilateral trading system;

13. *Reaffirms* the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, stresses, to that end, the importance of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, noting that enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Bretton Woods institutions remains a continuous concern, and calls in this regard for further and effective progress;

14. *Also reaffirms* the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of development goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and resolves to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions in order to support sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to support the efforts of developing countries to enhance their capacities regarding the impact of international agreements on national development strategies;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-third session, a report on the theme "Impact of globalization on the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals" under the agenda item entitled "Globalization and interdependence";

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Globalization and

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[205] TD/412, part II.

interdependence", a sub-item entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence".

RESOLUTION 62/200

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/421/Add.2, para. 14)[206]

62/200. International Year of Astronomy, 2009

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

Aware that astronomy is one of the oldest basic sciences and that it has contributed and still contributes fundamentally to the evolution of other sciences and applications in a wide range of fields,

Recognizing that astronomical observations have profound implications for the development of science, philosophy, culture and the general conception of the universe,

Noting that, although there is a general interest in astronomy, it is often difficult for the general public to gain access to information and knowledge on the subject,

Conscious that each society has developed legends, myths and traditions concerning the sky, the planets and the stars which form part of its cultural heritage,

Welcoming resolution 33 C/25 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 19 October 2005[207] to express its support for the declaration of 2009 as the International Year of Astronomy, with a view to highlighting the importance of astronomical sciences and their contribution to knowledge and development,

Noting that the International Astronomical Union has been supporting the initiative since 2003 and that it will act to grant the project the widest impact,

Convinced that the Year could play a crucial role, inter alia, in raising public awareness of the importance of astronomy and basic sciences for sustainable development, promoting access to the universal knowledge of fundamental science through the excitement generated by the subject of astronomy, supporting formal and informal science education in schools as well as through science centres and museums and other relevant means, stimulating a long-term increase in student enrolment in the fields of science and technology, and supporting scientific literacy,

1. *Decides* to declare 2009 the International Year of Astronomy;

2. *Designates* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the lead agency and focal point for the Year, and invites it to organize, in this capacity, activities to be realized during the Year, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, the International Astronomical Union, the European Southern Observatory and astronomical societies and groups throughout the world, and, in this regard, notes that the activities of the Year will be funded from voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

3. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to promote actions at all levels aimed at increasing awareness among the public of the importance of astronomical sciences and promoting widespread access to new knowledge and experiences of astronomical observation.

RESOLUTION 62/201

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/421/Add.2, para. 14)[208]

62/201. Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/200 of 23 December 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004 and 60/205 of 22 December 2005,

Recalling also its resolution 61/207 of 20 December 2006 and its reference to science and technology,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006,

Recognizing the vital role that science and technology, including environmentally sound technologies, can play in development and in facilitating efforts to eradicate poverty, achieve food security, fight diseases, improve education, protect the environment, accelerate the pace of economic diversification and transformation and improve productivity and competitiveness,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[209]

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[206] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[207] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, 33rd session, Paris, 3–21 October 2005*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, chap. V.

[208] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[209] See resolution 60/1.

Recalling also the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,[210]

Recognizing that international support can help developing countries to benefit from technological advances and can enhance their productive capacity,

Underscoring the role that traditional knowledge can play in technological development, and in the sustainable management and use of natural resources,

Acknowledging the urgent need to bridge the digital divide and to assist developing countries in accessing the potential benefits of information and communications technologies,

Welcoming the adoption of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building of the United Nations Environment Programme,[211]

Reaffirming the need to enhance the science and technology programmes of the relevant entities of the United Nations system,

Noting with appreciation the collaboration between the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in establishing a network of centres of excellence in science and technology for developing countries and in designing and carrying out science, technology and innovation policy reviews,

Taking note with interest of the establishment of the inter-agency cooperation network on biotechnology, UN-Biotech, as described in the report of the Secretary-General on science and technology for development,[212]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,

Encouraging the development of initiatives to promote private sector engagement in technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation,

1. *Reaffirms its commitment*:

(*a*) To strengthen and enhance existing mechanisms and to support initiatives for research and development, including through voluntary partnerships between the public and private sectors, to address the special needs of developing countries in the areas of health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;

(*b*) To promote and facilitate, as appropriate, access to, and development, transfer and diffusion of, technologies, including environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, to developing countries;

(*c*) To assist developing countries in their efforts to promote and develop national strategies for human resources and science and technology, which are primary drivers of national capacity-building for development;

(*d*) To promote and support greater efforts to develop renewable sources of energy, such as solar, wind and geothermal energy;

(*e*) To implement policies at the national and international levels to attract both public and private investment, domestic and foreign, that enhances knowledge, transfers technology on mutually agreed terms and raises productivity;

(*f*) To support the efforts of developing countries, individually and collectively, to harness new agricultural technologies in order to increase agricultural productivity through environmentally sustainable means;

2. *Recognizes* that science and technology, including information and communications technologies, are vital for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and for the full participation of developing countries in the global economy;

3. *Requests* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to provide a forum within which to continue to assist the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society[210] and to address within its mandate, in accordance with Council resolution 2006/46, the special needs of developing countries in areas such as agriculture, rural development, information and communications technologies and environmental management;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with relevant partners, to continue to undertake science, technology and innovation policy reviews, with a view to assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in identifying the measures that are needed to integrate science, technology and innovation policies in their national development strategies;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant organizations to assist developing countries in their efforts to integrate science, technology and innovation policies in national development strategies;

6. *Encourages* Governments to strengthen and foster investment in research and development for environmentally sound technologies and to promote the involvement of the business and financial sectors in the development of those technologies, and invites the international community to support those efforts;

7. *Encourages* existing arrangements and the further promotion of regional, subregional and interregional joint research and development projects by, where feasible,

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[210] See A/60/687 and A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I.

[211] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

[212] A/62/136.

mobilizing existing scientific and research and development resources and by networking sophisticated scientific facilities and research equipment;

8. *Encourages* the international community to continue to facilitate, in view of the difference in level of development between countries, an adequate diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and transfer of, access to, and acquisition of technology for developing countries, under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms, in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare for the benefit of society;

9. *Calls for* continued collaboration between United Nations entities and other international organizations, civil society and the private sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, with a view to putting the potential of information and communications technologies at the service of development through policy research on the digital divide and on new challenges of the information society, as well as technical assistance activities, involving multi-stakeholder partnerships;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and recommendations for future follow-up, including lessons learned in integrating science, technology and innovation policies into national development strategies.

RESOLUTION 62/202

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/421/Add.3, para. 8)[213]

62/202. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005 and 61/209 of 20 December 2006,

Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[214]

Welcoming also the convening of the first session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in Jordan, from 10 to 14 December 2006, and stressing the need for States parties to take steps to implement the outcome of that Conference,

Bearing in mind the importance of the work carried out by the open-ended intergovernmental expert working groups on asset recovery, review of implementation and technical assistance,

Recalling the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[215] which underlined that fighting corruption at all levels is a priority, and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[216]

Convinced that a stable and transparent environment for national and international commercial transactions in all countries is essential for the mobilization of investment, finance, technology, skills and other important resources, and recognizing that effective efforts at all levels to prevent and combat corruption in all its forms in all countries are essential elements of an improved national and international business environment,

Reiterating its concern about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication, the fight against hunger, and economic and sustainable development,

Emphasizing the need for solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and the need to improve the efficiency, transparency and accountability of domestic administration and public spending and the rule of law, to ensure full respect for human rights, including the right to development, and to eradicate corruption and build sound economic and social institutions,

Recalling that the fight against all forms of corruption requires strong institutions at all levels, including at the local level, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular chapters II and III,

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[213] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

[214] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[215] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[216] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Recognizing the concern about the laundering and the transfer and/or transaction of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Concerned about the links between corruption in all its forms, including bribery, corruption-related money-laundering and the transfer of assets of illicit origin, and other forms of crime, in particular organized crime and economic crime,

Noting the particular concern of developing countries and countries with economies in transition regarding the return of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption, in particular to countries from which they originated, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular chapter V, in view of the importance that such assets can have to their sustainable development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[217]

2. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of the transfer of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[214]

3. *Condemns* corruption in all its forms, including bribery, money-laundering and the transfer of assets of illicit origin;

4. *Encourages* all Governments to prevent, combat and penalize corruption in all its forms, including bribery, money-laundering and the transfer of illicitly acquired assets, and to work for the prompt return of such assets through asset recovery consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, particularly chapter V;

5. *Invites* Member States to work on the identification and tracing of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in this regard;

6. *Stresses* the importance of mutual legal assistance, and encourages Member States to enhance international cooperation, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

7. *Welcomes* the high number of Member States that have already ratified or acceded to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and calls upon all States parties to fully implement the Convention as soon as possible;

8. *Calls upon* States parties, and encourages other Member States, to support the initiatives adopted at the first session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular the work carried out by the open-ended intergovernmental expert working groups on asset recovery, review of implementation and technical assistance in order to facilitate the full implementation of the Convention, and the review thereof, and in this regard stresses the importance of the adoption of relevant legislation consistent with the Convention;

9. *Encourages* all States parties that have not yet done so to submit information through the self-assessment checklist as a follow-up mechanism to the first session of the Conference of the States Parties;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, including in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and to implement effective measures at the national level and, in accordance with domestic law and policies, at the local level, to prevent and combat corruption;

11. *Takes note* of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, and welcomes the cooperation of the Office with relevant partners, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery;

12. *Urges* all Member States, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption;

13. *Encourages* Member States to provide adequate financial and human resources to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including for the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and also encourages the Office to give high priority to technical cooperation, upon request, inter alia, to promote and facilitate the ratification, acceptance, approval of or accession to and the implementation of the Convention;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, in accordance with its mandate;

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[217] A/62/116.

15. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer of assets of illicit origin, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of assets of illicit origin as well as for asset recovery consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, particularly chapter V, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting transparency and integrity in both the public and private sectors;

17. *Encourages* all Member States that have not yet done so to require financial institutions to properly implement comprehensive due diligence and vigilance programmes, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and those of other relevant applicable instruments;

18. *Calls upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, welcomes the agreement to add anti-corruption as the tenth principle of the Global Compact, and emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability;

19. *Takes note* of the generous offer of the Government of Indonesia to host the second session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at Nusa Dua, Bali, from 28 January to 1 February 2008, and invites all States parties and signatories to take measures aimed at enhancing the full and effective implementation of the Convention;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, from within existing resources, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, also encompassing relevant reports from the second session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption", bearing in mind the possibility of reviewing the future consideration of this sub-item.

RESOLUTION 62/203

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/422/Add.1, para. 8)[218]

62/203. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Brussels Declaration[219] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[220]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[221] in particular paragraph 15 thereof, in which the Heads of State and Government undertook to address the special needs of the least developed countries,

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[222]

Recalling also its resolutions 61/211 of 20 December 2006 and 61/1 of 19 September 2006,

Reaffirming its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2004 of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Resources mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010",[223]

Taking note also of the Istanbul Declaration on the Least Developed Countries: Time for Action,[224] adopted at the Ministerial Conference of the Least Developed Countries held in Istanbul on 9 and 10 July 2007 on the theme "Making globalization work for the least developed countries",

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[218] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[219] A/CONF.191/13, chap. I.

[220] Ibid., chap. II.

[221] See resolution 55/2.

[222] See resolution 60/1.

[223] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/59/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 49.

[224] A/62/216, annex.

Reaffirming that the Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for a strong global partnership, whose goal is to accelerate sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in the least developed countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010;[225]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the advocacy strategy on the effective and timely implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010;[226]

3. *Welcomes* the contributions made in the lead-up to the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[220] including the elaboration of the Cotonou Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010[227] as an initiative owned and led by the least developed countries;

4. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the Declaration[228] adopted by Heads of State and Government and heads of delegations participating in the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, in which they recommitted themselves to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries by making progress towards the goals of poverty eradication, peace and development;

5. *Remains concerned* about the insufficient and uneven progress achieved in the implementation of the Programme of Action, and stresses the need to address, within the time frame set by the Programme of Action, areas of weakness in its implementation and the continued precarious socio-economic situation in some least developed countries through a strong commitment to the objectives, goals and targets of the Programme of Action;

6. *Welcomes* the continued economic progress of many least developed countries, which has led to the fact that a number of countries are proceeding towards graduation from the list of least developed countries;

7. *Stresses* that the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, can be effectively achieved in the least developed countries through, in particular, the timely fulfilment of the seven commitments of the Programme of Action;

8. *Reaffirms* that progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action will require effective implementation of national policies and priorities for the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of the least developed countries, as well as strong and committed partnership between those countries and their development partners;

9. *Underlines* the fact that, for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, the least developed countries and their development partners must be guided by an integrated approach, a broader genuine partnership, country ownership, market considerations and results-oriented actions encompassing:

(*a*) Fostering a people-centred policy framework;

(*b*) Ensuring good governance at both the national and international levels as essential for the implementation of the commitments embodied in the Programme of Action;

(*c*) Building human and institutional capacities;

(*d*) Building productive capacities to make globalization work for the least developed countries;

(*e*) Enhancing the role of trade in development;

(*f*) Reducing vulnerability and protecting the environment;

(*g*) Mobilizing financial resources;

10. *Urges* the least developed countries to strengthen the implementation of the Programme of Action through their respective national development framework, including, where they exist, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

11. *Urges* development partners to fully implement, in a timely manner, commitments in the Programme of Action and to exercise individual best efforts to continue to increase their financial and technical support for its implementation;

12. *Also urges* development partners to continue to support the efforts of countries graduating from the list of least developed countries in order to better promote their further integration into the world economy, to sustain their development process and to avoid any disruption therein, including within the framework of the smooth transition strategy;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations Resident Coordinator system, the Bretton Woods institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors and other development partners to assist the least developed countries in translating goals and targets of the Programme of Action into concrete actions in the light of their national development priorities;

14. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations that have not yet done so to mainstream the implementation of the Brussels

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[225] A/62/79-E/2007/63 and Corr.1.

[226] A/62/322.

[227] A/61/117, annex I.

[228] See resolution 61/1.

Declaration[219] and the Programme of Action within their programmes of work as well as in their intergovernmental processes and to undertake within their respective mandates multi-year programming of actions in favour of the least developed countries;

15. *Stresses*, within the context of the annual global reviews, as envisaged in the Programme of Action, the need to assess the implementation of the Programme of Action sector by sector, and in this regard invites the United Nations system and all relevant international organizations, consistent with their respective mandates, to report on the progress made in its implementation using quantifiable criteria and indicators to be measured against the goals and targets of the Programme of Action and to participate fully in reviews of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

16. *Also stresses* the crucial importance of integrated and coordinated follow-up, monitoring and reporting for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

17. *Requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General to ensure, at the Secretariat level, the full mobilization and coordination of all parts of the United Nations system to facilitate coordinated implementation as well as coherence in the follow-up to and monitoring and review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, including through such coordination mechanisms as the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the United Nations Development Group, the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs and the Inter-agency Expert Group on the Millennium Development Goals Indicators;

18. *Reiterates its invitation* to the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and other relevant multilateral organizations, to provide full support to and cooperate with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States;

19. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to include the least developed countries in all relevant reports in the economic, social and related fields in order to ensure the follow-up of their development in the broader context of the world economy and contribute to preventing their further marginalization;

20. *Expresses its concern* about the insufficiency of resources in the trust fund established for the participation of the least developed countries in the annual review of the implementation of the Programme of Action by the Economic and Social Council;

21. *Reiterates* the critical importance of the participation of Government representatives from the least developed countries in the annual review of the Programme of Action by the Economic and Social Council, expresses, in this regard, its deep appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established for this purpose by the Secretary-General, invites donor countries to continue to support the participation of two representatives from each least developed country in the annual review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, including by contributing in an adequate and timely manner to the special trust fund, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources in order to ensure that the trust fund is adequately resourced;

22. *Recalls* paragraph 114 of the Programme of Action on holding a fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries towards the end of the current decade, requests the Secretary-General, in this regard, to prepare a note during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly outlining the modalities of such a conference, including its preparatory process, and also, in this regard, invites Member States to consider hosting that conference;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures for the implementation of the advocacy strategy,[226] in coordination with all relevant stakeholders;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit an annual analytical and results-oriented progress report on the further implementation of the Programme of Action and to make available adequate resources, within existing resources, for the preparation of such a report.

RESOLUTION 62/204

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/422/Add.2, para. 8)[229]

62/204. Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/201 of 23 December 2003, 60/208 of 22 December 2005 and 61/212 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[230] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[231]

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[229] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[230] See resolution 55/2.

[231] See resolution 60/1.

Recalling further the Asunción Platform for the Doha Development Round,[232]

Taking note of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration adopted at the Meeting of Trade Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Ulaanbaatar on 28 and 29 August 2007,[233]

Recalling resolution 63/5 of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific of 23 May 2007,[234]

Recalling also the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the 2007 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, adopted on 10 July 2007,[235]

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks continue to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socio-economic development,

Recognizing also that cooperation between transit countries and landlocked developing countries results in better transit transport systems,

Expressing support to those landlocked developing countries that are emerging from conflict, with a view to enabling them to rehabilitate and reconstruct, as appropriate, political, social and economic infrastructure and assisting them in achieving their development priorities, in accordance with the goals and targets of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[236]

Recalling the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[237] an initiative for accelerating regional economic cooperation and development, as many landlocked and transit developing countries are located in Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of preparations for the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action;[238]

2. *Also takes note* of the outcome documents of the Thematic Meeting on Transit Transport Infrastructure Development, held in Ouagadougou from 18 to 20 June 2007,[239] and of the Thematic Meeting on International Trade and Trade Facilitation, held in Ulaanbaatar on 30 and 31 August 2007;[240]

3. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law;

4. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe their legitimate interests;

5. *Encourages* donors and multilateral and regional financial and development institutions, in particular the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate technical and financial assistance in the form of grants or concessionary loans for the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries[236] in particular for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes, and to also provide technical assistance in trade facilitation;

6. *Emphasizes* that the development and improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor countries should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

7. *Recalls* that landlocked and transit developing countries have the primary responsibility for implementing the Almaty Programme of Action, as envisaged in its paragraphs 38 and 38 bis;

8. *Emphasizes* that South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation with the involvement of donors should be strengthened, as well as cooperation among subregional and regional organizations;

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[232] A/60/308, annex.

[233] A/C.2/62/9, annex.

[234] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 19* (E/2007/39), chap. IV, sect. A.

[235] A/62/3 and Corr.1, chap. III, sect. C, para. 90. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 3.*

[236] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

[237] A/57/304, annex.

[238] A/62/226.

[239] A/62/256 and Corr.1, annexes I and II.

[240] A/C.2/62/4, annexes I and II.

9. *Decides* to hold, from within existing resources, two days of high-level plenary meetings devoted to the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action during the sixty-third session of the General Assembly in New York, on 2 and 3 October 2008, to be chaired by the President of the Assembly;

10. *Stresses* that the midterm review should provide the international community with an opportunity to make the assessment of the progress made, lessons learned and constraints encountered in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and agree on what needs to be done to further galvanize global partnerships to assist landlocked developing countries in strengthening their effective participation in international trade and the world economy;

11. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene consultations during the sixty-second session of the Assembly to facilitate the preparation of an outcome for the midterm review and to finalize its organizational aspects, if necessary;

12. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in close consultation with the relevant United Nations system organizations, to prepare a draft outline of the outcome document of the midterm review so as to facilitate the intergovernmental consultations, taking into account the outcomes of the thematic meetings, the regional meetings and the reports of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

13. *Also requests* the Office of the High Representative, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001 and in the Almaty Programme of Action, to coordinate the preparatory process, further requests that United Nations system organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme and the regional commissions, and relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, provide necessary support and substantive inputs to the review process, and in this regard takes note of the organizational framework for the midterm review prepared by the Office of the High Representative in cooperation with the main stakeholders;

14. *Encourages* donors and the international financial and development institutions as well as private entities to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General to support the activities related to the follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the progress made, lessons learned and constraints encountered in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, including recommendations, with a view to the preparation for the midterm review meeting and the way forward;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation".

RESOLUTION 62/205

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/423/Add.1, para. 8)[241]

62/205. Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, 56/207 of 21 December 2001, 57/265 and 57/266 of 20 December 2002, 58/222 of 23 December 2003, 59/247 of 22 December 2004, 60/209 of 22 December 2005 and 61/213 of 20 December 2006,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[242] and their commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[243]

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling also its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling further the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development[244] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[245]

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[241] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[242] See resolution 55/2.

[243] See resolution 60/1.

[244] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[245] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Expressing concern that, after the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), and midway to the 2015 Millennium Development Goals target date, while there has been progress in reducing poverty in some regions, this progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority of the most affected groups, especially in the least developed countries and in particular in sub-Saharan Africa,

Encouraged by reductions in poverty in some countries in the recent past, and determined to reinforce and extend this trend to benefit people worldwide,

Recognizing that mobilizing financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Acknowledging that sustained economic growth, supported by rising productivity and a favourable environment, including private investment and entrepreneurship, is necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and realize a rise in living standards,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006);[246]

2. *Recognizes* that during the implementation of the first Decade the international community adopted, inter alia, the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[242] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[247] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[243] which are mechanisms to focus national, regional and international efforts towards achieving poverty eradication;

3. *Proclaims* the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Reiterates* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries;

5. *Urges* all Governments, the international community, including the United Nations system, and all other actors to continue to pursue seriously the objective of the eradication of poverty;

6. *Reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizes that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

7. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development, critical for the eradication of poverty;

8. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring, at the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities for the eradication of poverty in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

9. *Calls upon* donor countries to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty in their assistance programmes and budgets, on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis;

10. *Recognizes* that sustained economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment;

11. *Also recognizes* that, for developing countries to reach the targets set in the context of national development strategies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the goal on the eradication of poverty, and for such poverty eradication strategies to be effective, it is imperative that developing countries be integrated into the world economy and share equitably in the benefits of globalization;

12. *Further recognizes* the importance of official development assistance as a source of financing development for developing countries, calls for the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2015, and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

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[246] A/62/267.

[247] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report containing recommendations on how to make the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) effective, in support of the poverty eradication-related internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session an item entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)".

RESOLUTION 62/206

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/423/Add.2, para. 8)[248]

62/206. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999, 56/188 of 21 December 2001, 58/206 of 23 December 2003, 59/248 of 22 December 2004 and 60/210 of 22 December 2005 and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including the Declaration adopted at its forty-ninth session,[249]

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration[250] and Platform for Action[251] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[252] and recalling the outcomes of all other relevant major United Nations conferences and summits,

Reaffirming also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[253] which affirms that the equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured, and calls for, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as being effective and essential to eradicating poverty and hunger, in combating diseases and in stimulating development that is truly sustainable,

Taking note with appreciation of the discussion on women in development in the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session, and recalling its agreed conclusions on "Enhanced participation of women in development: an enabling environment for achieving gender equality and the advancement of women, taking into account, inter alia, the fields of education, health and work",[254]

Recognizing that access to basic affordable health care, preventive health information and the highest standard of health, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, is critical to women's economic advancement, that lack of economic empowerment and independence increases women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, including the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, and that the neglect of the full enjoyment of human rights by women severely limits their opportunities in public and private life, including the opportunity for education and economic and political empowerment,

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Reaffirming also the significant contribution that women make to the economy, that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty,

Noting that gender biases in labour markets and women's lack of control over their own labour and earned income are also major factors in women's vulnerability to poverty, and, together with women's disproportionate responsibilities for domestic work, result in a lack of economic autonomy and influence in economic decision-making within households and in society at all levels,

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[248] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[249] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[250] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[251] Ibid., annex II.

[252] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[253] See resolution 55/2.

[254] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 7* and corrigenda (E/2006/27 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. I, sect. D.

Recognizing that population and development issues, education and training, health, nutrition, the environment, water supply, sanitation, housing, communications, science and technology, and employment opportunities are important elements for effective poverty eradication and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Recognizing also, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and civil, political and fundamental freedoms for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Reaffirming the need to eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education by the earliest possible date and at all levels by 2015, and reaffirming that equal access to education and training at all levels, in particular in business, trade, administration, information and communications technologies and other new technologies and the need to eliminate gender inequalities at all levels are essential for gender equality, the empowerment of women and poverty eradication and to allow women's full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development,

Recognizing that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing also that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development,

Aware that, while globalization and liberalization processes have created employment opportunities for women in many countries, they have also made some women, especially in developing countries and in particular in the least developed countries, more vulnerable to problems caused by increased economic volatility, including in the agricultural sector, and that special support, particularly for women who are small-scale farmers, and empowerment are necessary to enable them to take advantage of the opportunities of agricultural market liberalization,

Recognizing that enhanced trade opportunities for developing countries, including through trade liberalization, will improve the economic condition of those societies, including women, which is of particular importance in rural communities,

Expressing its concern that, while women represent an important and growing proportion of business owners, their contribution to economic and social development is constrained by, inter alia, the denial and lack of equal rights and lack of access of women to education, training, information, support services and credit facilities, salaries, and control over land, capital, technology and other areas of production,

Also expressing its concern about the underrepresentation of women in political and economic decision-making, and stressing the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of all policies and programmes,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, and the specialized agencies in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[255]

2. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration[250] and Platform for Action[251] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[252]

3. *Recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and poverty eradication, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with civil society, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues;

4. *Stresses* the importance of creating a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all fields of life for the effective integration of women in development;

5. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and the United Nations system to accelerate further efforts to increase the number of women in decision-making and to build their capacity as agents of change, and to empower women to participate actively and effectively in the development, implementation and evaluation of national development and/or poverty eradication policies, strategies and programmes, including, where appropriate, programme-based approaches;

6. *Urges* Member States to incorporate a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, into the design, implementation, monitoring and reporting of national development strategies, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts to develop methodologies and tools and to promote capacity-building and evaluation;

7. *Encourages* Member States to ensure inclusive and more effective participation of national mechanisms for gender equality and women's empowerment in formulating national development strategies, including poverty eradication strategies, and calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts in this regard;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to increase women's representation and participation in government decision-making at all levels in development policy areas to

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[255] A/62/187.

ensure that the priorities, needs and contributions of women are taken into consideration by, inter alia, providing access to training; developing measures to reconcile family and professional responsibilities; and eliminating gender stereotyping in appointments and promotions;

9. *Recognizes* that violence against women and girls is one of the obstacles to the achievement of the objectives of equality, development and peace and the implications of violence against women and girls for the social and economic development of communities and States, and calls upon States to elaborate and implement plans of action to eliminate violence against women and girls;

10. *Also recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders to assist and support developing countries' efforts in integrating a gender perspective into all aspects of policymaking, including through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

11. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities that will generate income among disadvantaged women and women living in poverty;

12. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypical attitudes to gender equality at work and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;

13. *Urges* all Member States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, giving special attention to poor, uneducated women, and to support women's access to legal assistance; and to encourage the financial sector to mainstream gender perspectives in their policies and programmes;

14. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, notes in this regard the importance of sound national financial systems, and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

15. *Urges* all Governments to ensure women's equal rights with men and their equal access to all levels of education;

16. *Urges* Member States to encourage women entrepreneurs, including through education and training of women in business, administration and information and communications technologies, and invites business associations to assist national efforts in this regard;

17. *Calls upon* Governments to promote, inter alia, through legislation and family-friendly and gender-sensitive work environments, the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers and the provision of the necessary care for working women's children and other dependants and to consider promoting policies and programmes, as appropriate, to enable men and women to reconcile their work, social and family responsibilities;

18. *Urges* Member States to design and revise laws that ensure that women are accorded full and equal rights to own land, housing and other property, including through inheritance, and to undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital and appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

19. *Recognizes* the need to empower women economically and politically, particularly poor women, and in this regard encourages Governments, with the support of their development partners, to invest in appropriate infrastructure and other projects, as well as to create opportunities for economic empowerment, in order to alleviate for women and girls the burden of time-consuming everyday tasks;

20. *Expresses its concern* at the overall expansion and feminization of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and that women and girls bear a disproportionate share of the burden imposed by the HIV/AIDS crisis, that they are more easily infected, that they play a key role in care and that they have become more vulnerable to violence, stigma and discrimination, poverty, and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of the HIV/AIDS crisis, and calls upon Governments and the international community to intensify efforts towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010;

21. *Reaffirms* the commitment to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development,[256] integrating this goal into strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[253] aimed at reducing maternal mortality, improving maternal health, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS and eradicating poverty;

22. *Recognizes* that a substantial increase in official development assistance and other resources will be required if developing countries are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, and that, in order to build support for

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[256] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

official development assistance, cooperation will be needed in further improving policies and development strategies, both nationally and internationally, to enhance aid effectiveness;

23. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the necessary financial resources to assist national Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

24. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

25. *Stresses* the importance of collecting and exchanging all relevant information needed on the role of women in development, including data on international migration, as well as the need to develop statistics disaggregated by age and sex, and in that regard encourages developed countries and relevant entities of the United Nations to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems;

26. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this field in accordance with the national development strategies;

27. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to integrate gender mainstreaming into all its programmes and policies, including in the integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences, in accordance with agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997;[257]

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including on integrating a gender perspective into national development strategies;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

RESOLUTION 62/207

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/423/Add.3, para. 8)[258]

62/207. Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003 and 60/211 of 22 December 2005,

Recalling also the World Summit on the Information Society,

Stressing that science and technology plays a critical role in facilitating human resources development, which can enhance opportunities for social and economic development,

Stressing also that human resources development is key to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population,

Acknowledging the urgent need to bridge the technological gap and to assist developing countries to access the potential benefits of science and technology for human resources development,

Recognizing that globalization, connectivity and interdependence have accelerated the pace of technological innovation, which enhances the benefits for countries that develop the skills and knowledge needed to acquire, adapt and diffuse technological innovations,

Recognizing also that developing countries often have limited capacity to acquire, adapt and diffuse technological knowledge and innovation, and emphasizing the importance, where appropriate, of financial and technical assistance and resources from the international community and, as relevant, the fostering of international partnerships to enhance private sector technology transfers,

Stressing the importance of facilitating increased, cost-effective and equitable access to technological knowledge and learning, including through open trade and investment frameworks,

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[257] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* and addendum (A/52/3/Rev.1 and Rev.1/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

[258] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

Emphasizing that education in science and technology is fundamental for technological knowledge and innovation, recognizing the benefits to all countries of making this an educational priority, and noting the constraints faced by some developing countries in this regard,

Recognizing the importance of science and technology in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Stressing the importance of the effective use of science and technology in promoting human resources development in the context of national strategies focused on technological knowledge and learning, assisted by an enabling domestic and international environment,

Stressing also that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and the need for greater support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

Stressing further that health and education are at the core of human resources development and the need to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and will have equal access to all levels of education,

Noting the impact of the movement of highly skilled people and those with an advanced education on human resources development and sustainable development in developing countries, and stressing the need for a global and comprehensive approach to maximize the positive impact of skilled labour mobility on human resources development,

Stressing that, while the private sector plays an important role in the diffusion of applied science and technology, Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing a national strategy to promote technological knowledge and learning, with the support of the international community,

Emphasizing the continuing need for coordination and collaboration among the organizations of the United Nations system, within their mandates, in assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in fostering their human resources development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[259]

2. *Encourages* Member States to make technological knowledge and learning a priority of their human resources development strategies at all levels of education, including formal and informal learning, emphasizes the importance of the capacity of educators in the technology learning process, and encourages the international community to continue to facilitate, in view of the difference in level of development between countries, an adequate diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and transfer of, access to and acquisition of technology for developing countries, under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms, in a manner conducive to human resources development;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of human resources development in promoting sustainable development, and encourages Governments to integrate human resources development policies into their national development strategies;

4. *Calls for* steps to integrate gender perspectives into human resources development, including through policies, strategies and targeted actions aimed at promoting women's capacities and access to productive activities, and in this regard emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of such policies, strategies and actions;

5. *Urges* the adoption of cross-sectoral approaches to human resources development, which combine, among other factors, economic growth, poverty eradication, the provision of basic social services, sustainable livelihoods, the empowerment of women, the involvement of young people, the needs of vulnerable groups of society and of local indigenous communities, political freedom, popular participation and respect for human rights, justice and equity, all of which are essential for enhancing human capacity in order to meet the challenge of development;

6. *Calls upon* the international community, including the entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address the adverse effects of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases on their human resources;

7. *Encourages* Member States to build information and communications technologies capacity to promote equitable access to and use of information and communications technologies in order to improve professional competencies and technical skills and to create an enabling environment for lifelong learning, and reiterates the crucial role of the international community in fulfilling its commitments in this regard;

8. *Also encourages* Member States to expand technical, vocational, craft and utilitarian science education to all sectors of society, especially to women and disadvantaged groups, and to promote their empowerment through the use of information and communications technologies to facilitate more equitable access to training and education on science and technology;

9. *Stresses* that investment in human resources development should be an integral part of national development

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[259] A/62/308

policies and strategies, and in this regard calls for the adoption of policies to facilitate investment focused on infrastructure and capacity development, including, inter alia, education, health and science and technology, including information and communications technologies;

10. *Also stresses* the importance of investments in research and development in all countries, particularly in developing countries, to develop a technological base and create knowledge and innovation relevant to local needs, encourages Governments in this regard, where appropriate, to adopt trade, investment and regulatory regimes that promote private-public investment in research and development, and invites the provision of technical and financial assistance by the international community, including through collaborative research;

11. *Further stresses* the need to establish strong links between relevant stakeholders in education and industry so as to ensure that educational curricula and programmes meet national science and technological needs, and strongly encourages international support for science and technological education, including higher education in developing countries;

12. *Stresses* the importance of technical and vocational training in increasing technological learning and innovation and for promoting entrepreneurship for technological development;

13. *Encourages* partnerships with subregional, regional and international networks and research facilities and other relevant institutions, public and private, to optimize research efforts, facilitate cost-sharing and achieve mutual gains and requests the United Nations system to assist in this regard;

14. *Calls upon* the relevant entities of the United Nations system to give priority to the objectives of human resources development through, inter alia, integrating into their development programmes explicit support for building science and technology capacities compatible with local needs, resources, culture and practices;

15. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations system, including through public-private partnerships, to continue to support the efforts of developing countries in formulating human resources development strategies that promote technological capability;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of human resources development strategies, in particular on lessons learned and the role of the international community and other entities, including the private sector, in assisting these efforts;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

RESOLUTION 62/208

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/424/Add.2, para. 9)[260]

62/208. Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/211 of 22 December 1989, 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 52/203 of 18 December 1997, 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 53/192 of 15 December 1998, 56/201 of 21 December 2001 and 59/250 of 22 December 2004, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2005/7 of 20 July 2005 and 2006/14 of 26 July 2006 and other relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming the importance of the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming also the need to strengthen the United Nations with a view to enhancing its authority and efficiency, as well as its capacity to address effectively, and in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the full range of development challenges of our time,

Recalling the commitment of Member States to enhance the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and credibility of the United Nations system as a shared goal and interest,

Recalling also the need to provide the United Nations system with adequate and timely resources with a view to enabling it to carry out its mandates,

Reaffirming the need to ensure, in a coherent and timely manner, the full implementation of all the elements of its resolutions 44/211, 47/199, 50/120, 53/192, 56/201 and 59/250, and the parts of its resolution 52/12 B, relevant to operational activities for development, which should be considered as an integral part of the present resolution,

Recalling the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with the present resolution and General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 and 61/16 of 20 November 2006,

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[260] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

Recalling also the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, such as the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2000,[261] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development of 2002,[262] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation") of 2002,[263] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[264] and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

Recognizing the vital role played by these conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives, which have contributed to our understanding of and actions to overcome the challenges to improving human life in different parts of the world,

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Recognizing that the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, offer a framework for planning, reviewing and assessing the activities of the United Nations for development,

Recognizing also that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, and reaffirming that development is a central goal in itself and that it constitutes a key element of the overarching framework of the United Nations operational activities for development,

Recognizing further that the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, can positively contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and encouraging their further contribution in supporting national development efforts in accordance with national plans and priorities,

Recognizing that new technologies, including information and communications technologies, present an opportunity to accelerate development, especially in developing countries, and noting that access to those technologies remains uneven and that a digital divide still prevails,

Reiterating the importance of the development of national capacities to eradicate poverty and pursue sustained and equitable economic growth and sustainable development as a central goal of the development cooperation of the United Nations system,

Recognizing that current trends in development assistance, including sector-wide approaches and budget support, pose challenges to the United Nations, and stressing that the United Nations can play a role in assisting developing countries to manage these aid modalities,

Recognizing also the urgent and specific needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States,

Recognizing further the special needs of Africa,

I

Introduction

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system[265] and on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;[266]

2. *Notes* the advances that the United Nations development system is making in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/250, and calls upon the United Nations system to accelerate its full implementation, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development;

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[261] See resolution 55/2.

[262] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[263] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[264] See resolution 60/1.

[265] A/62/73-E/2007/52 and A/62/253.

[266] A/62/74-E/2007/54 and A/62/326.

4. *Underscores* that there is no "one size fits all" approach to development and that development assistance by the United Nations development system should be able to respond to the varying development needs of programme countries and should be in alignment with their national development plans and strategies in accordance with its mandates;

5. *Recognizes* that the strength of the United Nations operational system lies in its legitimacy, at the country level, as a neutral, objective and trusted partner for both programme countries and donor countries;

6. *Stresses* that national Governments have the primary responsibility for their countries' development and for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to effectively integrate such assistance into their development processes;

7. *Emphasizes* that the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be valued and assessed on the basis of their impact on the programme countries as contributions to enhance their capacity to pursue poverty eradication, sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

8. *Decides* that, with the agreement and consent of the host country, the United Nations development system should assist national Governments in creating an enabling environment in which the links and cooperation between national Governments, the United Nations development system, civil society, national non-governmental organizations and the private sector that are involved in the development process are strengthened, including, as appropriate, during the United Nations Development Assistance Framework preparation process, with a view to seeking new and innovative solutions to development problems in accordance with national policies and priorities;

9. *Stresses* that the purpose of reform is to make the United Nations development system more efficient and effective in its support to developing countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, on the basis of their national development strategies, and stresses also that reform efforts should enhance organizational efficiency and achieve concrete development results;

10. *Requests* the United Nations development system to continue its efforts to respond to national development plans, policies and priorities, which constitute the only viable frame of reference for programming operational activities at the country level, and to pursue full integration of operational activities for development at the country level with national planning and programming, under the leadership of national Governments, at all stages of the process, while ensuring the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders at the national level;

11. *Recognizes* that strengthening the role and capacity of the United Nations development system to assist countries in achieving their development goals requires continuing improvement in its effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and impact, along with a significant increase in resources and an expansion of its resource base on a continuous, more predictable and assured basis;

12. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the United Nations Development Group, as appropriate, to make efforts to enhance the coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations development system;

13. *Recognizes* that the individual United Nations funds, programmes and agencies have specific experience and expertise, derived from, and in line with, their mandates and strategic plans, and stresses, in this regard, that improvement of coordination and coherence at the country level should be undertaken in a manner that recognizes the respective mandates and roles and enhances the effective utilization of resources and the unique expertise of all United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

14. *Urges* all Member States to pursue full implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizes the positive contribution that these goals can make in providing direction to the operational activities for development of the United Nations system in accordance with national development efforts and priorities;

15. *Recognizes* that the transition from relief to development represents a complex challenge as regards the universal achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

16. *Also recognizes* the importance of consistent, reliable and comprehensive statistical data and analysis about the United Nations operational activities in order to provide an understanding of evolutions and trends contributing to sound policy decisions;

II

Funding for operational activities of the United Nations development system

17. *Acknowledges* efforts by developed countries to increase resources for development, including commitments by some developed countries to increase official development assistance, notes with concern the overall decline in official development assistance in 2006, calls for the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance by 2015 and to reach at least 0.5 per cent of gross national income for official development

assistance by 2010, as well as the target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent for least developed countries, and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

18. *Stresses* that core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in this regard notes with concern that the share of core contributions to United Nations funds and programmes has declined in recent years, and recognizes the need for organizations to address, on a continuous basis, the imbalance between core and non-core resources;

19. *Urges* donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to substantially increase their voluntary contributions to the core/regular budgets of the United Nations development system, in particular its funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and to contribute on a multi-year basis, in a sustained and predictable manner;

20. *Notes* that non-core resources represent an important supplement to the regular resource base of the United Nations development system to support operational activities for development, thus contributing to an increase in total resources, while recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources and that unearmarked contributions are vital for the coherence and harmonization of the operational activities for development;

21. *Also notes*, in this regard, that the increased use of restrictively earmarked non-core resources reduces the influence of the governing bodies and can lead to the fragmentation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and can thus constrain their effectiveness;

22. *Recognizes* the establishment of thematic trust funds, multi-donor trust funds and other voluntary non-earmarked funding mechanisms linked to organization-specific funding frameworks and strategies established by the respective governing bodies as funding modalities complementary to regular budgets;

23. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes, and urges the specialized agencies to avoid using core/regular resources to cover costs related to the management of extrabudgetary funds and their programme activities;

24. *Stresses* that the mobilization and management of extrabudgetary resources should not adversely impact the quality of the delivery of the programme of work of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system;

25. *Notes with concern* that, based on assessed contributions, the regular budgets of many specialized agencies have been stagnating, and invites countries to consider increasing their contributions to the budgets of the specialized agencies in order to enable the United Nations development system to respond in a more comprehensive and effective manner to the demands of the United Nations development agenda;

26. *Recognizes* the urgent and specific needs of low-income countries, in particular the least developed countries, and stresses the need to continue to assist those countries, including through the existing institutions and funding mechanisms of the United Nations development system;

27. *Also recognizes* that middle-income developing countries still face significant challenges in the area of poverty eradication and that efforts to address those challenges should be supported in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, including through support to the effective development of comprehensive cooperation policies;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General, making use of existing capacities within the Secretariat and, if necessary, voluntary contributions:

(*a*) To continue to broaden and improve the coverage, timeliness, reliability, quality and comparability of system-wide financial data, definitions and classifications for the financial reporting of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in a coherent way;

(*b*) To build a comprehensive, sustainable and consistent financial data and reporting system for the operational activities for development of all the relevant organizations and entities of the United Nations system;

(*c*) To include, in this regard, in the report to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council in 2008 a concise assessment of progress made and a description of planned activities;

(*d*) To invite Member States to contribute to the support of the work mentioned above;

29. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to undertake, in full consultation with Member States, measures:

(*a*) To promote an adequate and expanding base of development assistance from the United Nations system, taking into account, inter alia, the development priorities of programme countries;

(*b*) To promote the continuation of the upward trend in real contributions to operational activities for development to identify obstacles to the achievement of that goal and to make appropriate recommendations in this regard;

(*c*) To promote the predictability and the multi-year pledging of funding for operational activities for development;

(*d*) To promote an appropriate balance between core and non-core contributions;

30. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report, pursuant to paragraph 29 above, to the sixty-third session of the General Assembly;

31. *Calls upon* developed countries to ensure that information on their efforts to increase the volume of official development assistance is made available to the relevant United Nations intergovernmental bodies;

32. *Emphasizes* that increasing financial contributions to the United Nations development system is key to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard recognizes the mutually reinforcing links between increased effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the United Nations development system, achieving concrete results in assisting developing countries to eradicate poverty and achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development through operational activities for development and the overall resourcing of the United Nations development system;

33. *Stresses* the importance for the United Nations development system to improve strategic planning, while noting that results-based management, accountability and transparency of the United Nations development system are an integral part of sound management;

34. *Emphasizes* that funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system should focus on long-term development challenges based on national development strategies;

III

Contribution of United Nations operational activities to national capacity development and development effectiveness

A. Capacity-building and development

35. *Recognizes* that capacity development and ownership of national development strategies are essential for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and calls upon United Nations organizations to provide further support to the efforts of developing countries to establish and/or maintain effective national institutions and to support the implementation and, as necessary, the devising of national strategies for capacity-building;

36. *Stresses* that capacity development is a core function of the United Nations development system, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to take measures to ensure a coherent and coordinated approach by the United Nations development system in its support to capacity development efforts of programme countries;

37. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to further support capacity-building and capacity development of developing countries, upon their request, to effectively coordinate and evaluate the impact of external development assistance in line with national development plans and priorities;

38. *Requests* the United Nations development system to support the development of specific frameworks aimed at enabling programme countries, upon their request, to design, monitor and evaluate results in the development of their capacities to achieve national development goals and strategies;

39. *Calls upon* United Nations organizations to adopt measures that ensure sustainability in capacity-building activities, and reiterates that the United Nations development system should use, to the fullest extent possible, national execution and available national expertise and technologies as the norm in the implementation of operational activities by focusing on national structures and avoiding, wherever possible, the practice of establishing parallel implementation units outside of national and local institutions;

40. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to continue to strengthen national execution bearing in mind the importance of building national capacity, simplifying procedures and aligning them with national procedures;

41. *Requests* the United Nations development system to strengthen its procurement systems, guided by best practices, and to progressively rely on national systems for procurement;

42. *Also requests* the United Nations development system, in consultation with Member States, to create and report on a specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound results framework to measure capacity-building initiatives and activities of the United Nations development system in developing countries;

43. *Encourages* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system to intensify collaboration at the country and regional levels to achieve more effective use of their expertise, resources and actions towards strengthening national capacities, in accordance with national priorities and development plans, including through the common country assessment, when required, and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

44. *Welcomes* efforts and initiatives to enhance the quality of aid and to increase its impact, including the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and calls for concrete, effective and timely action in implementing all agreed commitments on aid effectiveness, with clear monitoring and deadlines;

45. *Stresses* that programme countries, in order to meet the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,[261] should have access to new and emerging technologies, which requires technology transfer, technical cooperation and the building and nurturing of

scientific and technological capacity to participate in the development and adaptation of these technologies to local conditions, and in this regard urges Member States and the United Nations system to support the promotion and transfer of new and emerging technologies to programme countries;

46. *Requests* the United Nations development system to strengthen its role in facilitating access of developing countries to new and emerging technologies;

47. *Urges* all organizations of the United Nations development system to intensify inter-agency sharing of information at the system-wide level on good practices and experiences gained, results achieved, benchmarks and indicators and monitoring and evaluation criteria concerning their capacity-building and capacity development activities;

B. South-South cooperation and development of national capacities

48. *Reaffirms* the increased importance of South-South cooperation, and in this regard encourages the funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system involved to mainstream support to South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation to help developing countries, at their request and with their ownership and leadership, to develop capacities to maximize the benefits and impact of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in order to achieve their national goals, with special emphasis on internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

49. *Calls upon* donors and Member States in a position to do so to strengthen their support for South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation, especially by mobilizing financial resources on a sustainable basis and by providing technical assistance;

50. *Invites* all Member States and the United Nations development system to actively participate in the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation;

51. *Requests* the United Nations development system to intensify its information-sharing and reporting on support to and results achieved through South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation;

52. *Stresses* that further efforts are required to better understand the approaches and the potential of South-South cooperation to enhance development effectiveness, including through national capacity development;

53. *Also stresses* the importance of strengthening the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation within the United Nations Development Programme, and calls upon the United Nations development system to provide the Special Unit with further support to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

54. *Welcomes* the fact that the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation continues to facilitate the wide diffusion of and access to information relating to experiences, best practices and potential partners in South-South cooperation on the Web of Information for Development, its electronic databank;

55. *Invites* Member States and the United Nations development system to celebrate the United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation in an appropriate manner;

C. Gender equality and women's empowerment

56. *Reiterates its call upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality and the empowerment of women in their country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this field in accordance with national development strategies;

57. *Encourages* the governing bodies of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to ensure that gender perspectives are integrated into all aspects of their monitoring functions in relation to policies and strategies, medium-term plans, multi-year funding frameworks and operational activities, including those relating to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields;

58. *Takes note* of the adoption by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination of the United Nations system-wide policy on gender equality and the empowerment of women and strategy on gender mainstreaming,[267] and the efforts made by the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality;

59. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to consider the role of men and boys in gender mainstreaming policies;

60. *Requests* the United Nations development system to further enhance the effectiveness of gender specialist resources, gender focal points and gender theme groups, inter alia, by establishing clear mandates, ensuring adequate training, access to information and to adequate and stable resources and by increasing the support and participation of senior staff;

61. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to further improve their institutional accountability mechanisms and to include intergovernmentally agreed gender equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks;

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[267] CEB/2006/2 and Corr.1, annex.

62. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to further improve qualitative and quantitative reporting on gender equality, including gender disaggregated data;

63. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the annual report of resident coordinators includes adequate and concise information on progress on the above;

64. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to avail itself of the technical experience of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on gender issues;

65. *Urges* the organizations of the United Nations development system, in accordance with their respective mandates, to take a coherent and coordinated approach in their work on gender-related issues and to share good practices, tools and methodologies through appropriate means;

66. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system to continue efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments within the United Nations system at the central, regional and country levels for positions that affect operational activities for development, including appointments of resident coordinators and other high-level posts, with due regard to representation of women from programme countries, in particular developing countries, and keeping in mind the principle of equitable geographic representation;

D. Transition from relief to development

67. *Stresses* the need for transitional activities to be undertaken under national ownership, and requests the United Nations development system to contribute in this regard to the development of national capacities at all levels to manage the transition process;

68. *Recognizes* that the United Nations development system has a vital role to play in situations of transition from relief to development;

69. *Requests* the United Nations development system, upon the request of affected countries, to respond to countries affected by disasters or conflicts in transition from relief to development in support of national priorities, while recognizing the differences in these situations;

70. *Also requests* the United Nations development system, in responding to countries in transition from relief to development, to tailor support to country-specific needs and to develop approaches in order to effectively provide support for early recovery, in accordance with national strategies, policies and requirements, while assisting in restoring or developing national capacity;

71. *Requests* the organizations of the United Nations development system to strengthen interdepartmental and inter-agency coordination in order to ensure an integrated, coherent and coordinated approach to assistance at the country level, which takes account of the complexity of challenges that countries in those circumstances face and the country-specific character of those challenges;

72. *Also requests* the organizations of the United Nations development system to support, at the request of national Governments of countries in transition from relief to development, national capacity-building efforts and to report on their initiatives and activities in annual reporting to their respective governing bodies;

73. *Encourages* the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions to continue their efforts to improve coordination with regard to the transition from relief to development, including, where relevant, the development of joint responses for post-disaster and post-conflict need assessments, programme planning, implementation and monitoring, including funding mechanisms, to deliver more effective support and to lower transaction costs for countries in the transition from relief to development;

74. *Requests* the United Nations development system to take measures, in line with guidance provided by Member States, that further strengthen the coherence, relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of operational activities of the United Nations development system in countries in transition from relief to development;

75. *Notes*, in this regard, the need for the United Nations development system to consider ways to improve the effectiveness of its resource mobilization for transition from relief to development;

76. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the important role that the effective and responsive resident coordinator/humanitarian coordinator systems can play in situations of transition from relief to development;

77. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations entities to further increase efforts, where appropriate, with due consideration of national data, to harmonize data collection and information management during the transition phase from relief to development and to make that information available to the Member State concerned;

78. *Requests* the United Nations development system to build its support capacity for early recovery in situations from relief to development, while noting the role that the United Nations Development Programme can play in this regard;

79. *Recognizes* that the exchange of expertise and experiences among countries of the South enables countries in situations of transition from relief to development to benefit from the experiences of other developing countries, and encourages the further development of South-South cooperation modalities, including triangular cooperation modalities, in this regard, while recognizing the need to adapt experiences to national contexts;

80. *Invites* the United Nations development system to take into account in its assistance to countries emerging from conflict that are on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission, the advisory role that the Commission can play in relation to peacebuilding and recovery strategies, with a view to helping countries lay the foundation for their economic and social recovery and development and ensuring national ownership of the peacebuilding process;

81. *Urges* United Nations agencies and the donor community, in coordination with the national authorities, to begin planning the transition to development and taking measures supportive of that transition, such as institutional and capacity-building measures, from the beginning of the relief phase;

82. *Urges* all donors and countries in a position to do so to consider more coordinated and flexible approaches to the funding of operational activities for development in situations of transition from relief to development, making use of multiple resource mobilization instruments, and stresses that contributions to humanitarian assistance should not be provided at the expense of development assistance and that sufficient resources for humanitarian assistance should be made available by the international community;

83. *Stresses* the need for adequate, predictable and timely funding of operational activities for development in countries in situations from relief to development, and calls upon donors and countries in a position to do so to provide timely, predictable and sustained financial contributions for the operational activities of the United Nations system for early recovery and long-term development for countries in transition from relief to development;

84. *Requests* the resident coordinator system and the United Nations country teams, at the request of national Governments and in coordination with them, to promote the inclusion of prevention strategies in national development plans, bearing in mind the importance of national ownership and capacity-building at all levels;

85. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to integrate disaster risk reduction into their respective activities, including measures aimed at restoring and improving services and infrastructure as part of the early recovery and transition phase;

IV

Improved functioning of the United Nations development system

A. Coherence, effectiveness and relevance

86. *Underscores* that the ownership, leadership and full participation of national authorities in the preparation and development of all planning and programming documents of the United Nations development system, including the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, are key to guaranteeing that they respond to the national development plans and strategies, and requests the United Nations development system to use the Framework and its results matrix, where applicable and with the agreement of the programme country, as the common programming tool for country-level contributions of the funds and programmes towards the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, to be fully endorsed and countersigned by the national authorities;

87. *Recalls* the potential of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and its results matrix as the collective, coherent and integrated programming and monitoring framework for the operations of the United Nations development system at the country level, bringing increased opportunities for joint initiatives, including joint programming, and urges the United Nations development system to fully utilize such opportunities in the interest of enhancing aid efficiency and aid effectiveness;

88. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, that planning and programming frameworks of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, need to be fully aligned with national development planning cycles, whenever possible, and that they should make use of and strengthen national capacities and mechanisms;

89. *Underscores* the fact that the resident coordinator system is owned by the United Nations development system as a whole, and that its functioning should be participatory, collegial and accountable;

90. *Recognizes* the central role of resident coordinators in making possible the coordination of United Nations operational activities for development at the country level to improve the effectiveness of their response to the national development priorities of programme countries, including through appropriate resources and accountability;

91. *Reaffirms* that the resident coordinator system, within the framework of national ownership, has a key role to play in the effective and efficient functioning of the United Nations system at the country level, including in the formulation of the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and is a key instrument for the efficient and effective coordination of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

92. *Urges* the United Nations development system to provide further financial, technical and organizational support for the resident coordinator system, and requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the members of the United Nations Development Group, to ensure that resident coordinators have the necessary resources to fulfil their role effectively;

93. *Notes* that coordination activities, while beneficial, represent transaction costs that are borne by both programme countries and the organizations of the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to report on an annual basis to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session on the functioning of the resident coordinator system, including costs and benefits;

94. *Encourages* efforts by the United Nations development system to improve the selection and training process of resident coordinators, and requests the Secretary-General to report on this subject to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2009;

95. *Also encourages* the use of advanced information and communications technologies, including knowledge management, that will facilitate the contribution of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, including non-resident agencies, to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and other planning frameworks and mechanisms, as well as overall information-sharing;

96. *Underscores* that the resident coordinator, supported by the United Nations country team, should report to national authorities on progress made against results agreed in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

97. *Also underscores* the importance of ensuring that the strategic plans of funds and programmes are consistent with and guided by the comprehensive policy review, which establishes the main intergovernmentally agreed parameters of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

98. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to report to the General Assembly on the implications of aligning the strategic planning cycles of the United Nations funds and programmes with the comprehensive policy review and to provide recommendations on changing the comprehensive policy review from a three-year to a four-year cycle, in order for the Assembly to make a well-informed decision during its sixty-third session;

99. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations development system in the use of the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the alignment of the Framework cycle with national planning processes and frameworks in an increasing number of countries, and notes the efforts made to improve coherence, coordination and harmonization in the United Nations development system, including at the country level;

100. *Invites* the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions to explore further ways to enhance cooperation, collaboration and coordination, including through the greater harmonization of strategic frameworks, instruments, modalities and partnership arrangements, in full accordance with the priorities of the recipient Governments, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of ensuring, under the leadership of national authorities, greater consistency between the strategic frameworks developed by the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and the Bretton Woods institutions, while maintaining the institutional integrity and organizational mandates of each organization and the national poverty reduction strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist;

101. *Emphasizes* that programme countries should have access to and benefit from the full range of mandates and resources of the United Nations development system, whereby the national Governments should determine which resident and non-resident United Nations organizations will best respond to specific needs and priorities of the individual country, including in the case of non-resident agencies, through hosting arrangements with resident organizations, as appropriate;

102. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to improve the transparency and competitiveness of the recruitment processes for senior high-level posts in the United Nations development system in order to find the best candidates both inside and outside the United Nations system, and in this regard calls upon the chief executives of the United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes to fully cooperate with the Secretary-General, through the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, in harmonizing recruitment processes for senior officials by 2009, making the selection criteria transparent and ensuring that, for candidates with equivalent competencies, gender and geographical balance are duly taken into account;

103. *Encourages* that the United Nations development system be invited to participate, ex officio, in current and new aid modalities and coordination mechanisms, at the request of the programme country, and invites the United Nations development system to enhance its participation in this regard;

104. *Requests* the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, in the exercise of responsibilities for the management of the resident coordinator system, which continues to be firmly anchored in the United Nations Development Programme:

(*a*) To establish appropriate mechanisms to ensure that the cost of the resident coordinator system does not reduce resources that are destined for development programmes in programme countries;

(*b*) To ensure, where possible, that cost savings, as a result of joint efforts and coordination, will accrue to development programmes;

105. *Recalls* the mandate of the United Nations Development Programme, within the existing programming arrangement, to appoint country directors to run its core activities, including fund-raising, so as to assure that resident coordinators are fully available for their tasks;

B. Regional dimensions

106. *Recognizes* the contribution of interregional, regional and subregional cooperation to addressing development challenges related to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

107. *Encourages*, in this regard, the United Nations development system to strengthen collaboration with regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and regional banks, as appropriate and consistent with their respective mandates;

108. *Requests* the United Nations regional commissions to further develop their analytical capacities to support country-level development initiatives at the request of the programme countries, and to support measures for more intensive inter-agency collaboration at the regional and subregional levels;

109. *Recognizes*, in regard to the functioning of the United Nations development system, the importance of aligning regional technical support structures and the regional bureaux to provide support to the United Nations country teams, including enhanced technical, programme and administrative support, increasing their collaboration at the regional level, including through co-location, where appropriate and consistent with the needs of the programme countries of the regions concerned, and identifying appropriate mechanisms at the subregional level, where appropriate and in close consultation with the programme countries concerned, to respond to specific challenges that cannot be adequately responded to at the regional hubs;

110. *Requests* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations development system at the regional level and the regional commissions to further strengthen cooperation and coordination among each other at the regional level and with their respective headquarters, inter alia, through closer cooperation within the resident coordinator system and in close consultation with Governments of the countries concerned and, where appropriate, to include the funds, programmes and specialized agencies that are not represented at the regional level;

111. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, its regional commissions and other regional and subregional entities, as appropriate and consistent with their mandates, to intensify their cooperation and to adopt more collaborative approaches to support country-level development initiatives at the request of recipient countries, in particular through closer collaboration within the resident coordinator system and by improving mechanisms for access to the technical capacities of the United Nations system at the regional and subregional levels;

C. Transaction costs and efficiency

112. *Requests* the executive boards and governing bodies of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to assess the progress achieved, including costs and benefits, in the area of simplification and harmonization of the United Nations development system at the global, regional and country levels, analyse the potential impacts on development programming and report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session on an annual basis;

113. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to continue to harmonize and simplify their rules and procedures, wherever this can lead to a significant reduction in the administrative and procedural burden on the organizations and national partners, bearing in mind the special circumstances of programme countries, and to enhance the efficiency, accountability and transparency of the United Nations development system;

114. *Also calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to ensure, to the extent possible, that savings resulting from reductions in transaction and overhead costs accrue to development programmes in programme countries;

115. *Recognizes* that the growth of non-core/supplementary/extrabudgetary funding and of the number of associated projects increases transaction costs and is an important factor that can hinder efforts to maximize efficiency of the United Nations development system;

116. *Requests* the executive boards of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to review the issue of cost recovery to ensure that core resources do not subsidize the projects undertaken through non-core/supplementary/extrabudgetary funding;

117. *Requests* the United Nations development system to further standardize and harmonize the concepts, practices and cost classifications related to transaction cost and cost recovery, while maintaining the principle of full cost recovery in the administration of all non-core/supplementary/extrabudgetary contributions, including in joint programmes;

118. *Encourages* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as appropriate and in consultation with programme countries, to further lower transaction costs, to conduct missions, analytical work and evaluations at the country level jointly, to provide their capacity development support through coordinated programmes consistent with the requests of programme countries and national priorities and to promote joint training and sharing of lessons learned;

119. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to make increased use of national public and private systems for support services, including for procurement, security, information technology, telecommunications, travel and banking, as well as, when appropriate, for planning, reporting and evaluation, and also

encourages the United Nations development system to avoid and significantly reduce the number of its parallel project implementation units in programme countries as a means of strengthening national capacities and reducing transaction costs;

120. *Encourages* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to step up their efforts, in consultation with national Governments of programme countries and in accordance with their development needs and priorities, to rationalize their country presence through common premises, co-location and, where appropriate, to implement the joint office model and expand common shared support services and business units, in order to reduce United Nations overhead and transaction costs for national Governments;

121. *Encourages* the continuing development of harmonized approaches such as the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, the standardization of audit definitions and ratings and the harmonized approach to cash transfers, calls upon the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to further harmonize and simplify their business practices, and recognizes the importance of harmonizing human resources management, enterprise resource planning systems, finance, administration, procurement, security, information technology, telecommunications, travel and banking, and of making use of information and communications technologies to the fullest extent possible in order to reduce travel costs and other recurring communications costs;

122. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session in 2008, a programme of work for the full implementation of the above-mentioned actions, to be completed before the end of 2010, including a specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound results framework, benchmarks, responsibilities and provisions to phase out redundant rules and procedures, as well as a timetable to monitor the progress made towards meeting these targets;

D. Country-level capacity of the United Nations development system

123. *Reiterates* the need for the range and level of skills and expertise assembled by the United Nations system at the country level to be commensurate with that needed to deliver on the priorities specified in each country's United Nations Development Assistance Framework or country programme documents, in line with the national development strategies and plans, including poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist, and to correspond to the technical backstopping and capacity-building needs and requirements of developing countries;

124. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations development system to take all necessary measures in their human resources policies to ensure that United Nations staff involved in operational activities at the country level have the skills and expertise required for effective management, policy advisory and other capacity development work, in line with national development priorities and plans;

125. *Stresses* the need for the United Nations development system to adopt comprehensive policies and strategies for human resources and workforce planning and development, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report identifying human resources challenges within the development system at the country level and formulating recommendations for improvements;

126. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to continue and intensify efforts related to inter-agency staff mobility, re-profiling and redeployment of staff, as well as training and skills upgrading, notably at the United Nations System Staff College at Turin, Italy;

127. *Underscores* the importance of the use of national professional staff and national consultants, wherever feasible and to the advantage of the programme countries;

128. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to further promote, develop and support knowledge management systems, so that programme countries can avail themselves of knowledge and expertise that is not readily accessible at the country level, including resources readily available at the regional level and from non-resident agencies;

E. Evaluation of operational activities for development

129. *Emphasizes* that programme countries should have greater ownership and leadership in the evaluation of all forms of assistance, including that provided by the United Nations development system, and requests the United Nations development system to pursue and intensify its efforts to strengthen evaluation capacities in programme countries;

130. *Notes* the endorsement in 2005 of the norms and standards for evaluation by the United Nations system through the United Nations Evaluation Group, constituting a contribution to strengthening evaluation as a United Nations system function;

131. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assess the effectiveness of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including, in particular, by assessing the effective use of all capacities available to provide a comprehensive and flexible response to the demand of developing countries for development support, and to report on the results of this assessment in the context of the next comprehensive policy review;

132. *Recognizes* the need to optimize the linking of evaluation to performance in the achievement of development goals, and encourages the United Nations development system to strengthen its evaluation activities, with particular focus on development results, including through the effective use of the

results matrix of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, the systematic use of monitoring and evaluation approaches at the system-wide level and the promotion of collaborative approaches to evaluation, including joint evaluations;

133. *Emphasizes* the importance of the independence and impartiality of the evaluation function within the United Nations system;

134. *Reaffirms* that the effectiveness of operational activities should be assessed by their impact on the poverty eradication efforts, economic growth and sustainable development of programme countries;

135. *Recalls* the need for country-level evaluations of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework at the end of the programming cycle, based on the results matrix of the Framework, with the full participation and leadership of the recipient Government;

136. *Requests* the United Nations development system to further develop guidance and oversight mechanisms for the funding, planning and implementation of the monitoring and evaluation of United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, with a view to assessing their contribution to national development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

137. *Encourages* all United Nations organizations involved in operational activities for development that have not already done so to adopt, as appropriate, monitoring and evaluation policies that are in line with system-wide norms and standards and to make the necessary financial and institutional arrangements for the creation and/or strengthening of independent, credible and useful evaluation functions within each organization;

138. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to further strengthen evaluation, with the agreement of the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and agencies, and in this regard encourages the United Nations development system to continue efforts to strengthen evaluation across the system and to promote a culture of evaluation;

139. *Notes* the voluntary efforts to improve coherence, coordination and harmonization in the United Nations development system, including at the request of some "programme country pilot"; encourages the Secretary-General to support "programme country pilot" countries to evaluate and exchange their experiences, with the support of the United Nations Evaluation Group; and emphasizes, in addition, the need for an independent evaluation of lessons learned from such efforts, for consideration by Member States, without prejudice to a future intergovernmental decision;

V

Follow-up

140. *Reaffirms* that the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system should take appropriate actions for the full implementation of the present resolution, in line with paragraphs 91 and 92 of resolution 56/201;

141. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consultation with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to submit a report to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2008, on an appropriate management process, containing clear guidelines, targets, benchmarks and time frames for the full implementation of the present resolution, that defines results to be achieved through the implementation of the present resolution in a format that will allow for adequate monitoring and evaluation of these results, and interdepartmental and inter-agency measures that need to be set in motion, for the implementation of the present resolution;

142. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, on the basis of information provided by the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations development system, to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive sessions of 2009 and 2010, detailed reports on results achieved and measures and processes implemented in follow-up to the present resolution on the triennial comprehensive policy review in order to evaluate the implementation of the resolution, with a view to ensuring its full implementation;

143. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the present resolution in the context of the triennial comprehensive policy review, inter alia, by making use of relevant documentation, and to make appropriate recommendations.

RESOLUTION 62/209

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/424/Add.3, para. 8)[268]

62/209. South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for

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[268] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee.

Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[269]

Recalling its resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005 and other resolutions relevant to South-South cooperation,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[270]

Recalling further its resolution 59/250 of 22 December 2004, in which it, inter alia, urged organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to mainstream, in their programmes and through their country-level activities and country offices, modalities to support South-South cooperation,

Recalling its resolution 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, welcoming the support expressed for the convening of a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation, and recognizing the increased role undertaken by the United Nations to support activities in economic cooperation among developing countries,

Taking note of the initiatives contained in the Havana Programme of Action adopted by the first South Summit,[271] the Marrakesh Framework for the Implementation of South-South Cooperation[272] and the Doha Plan of Action,[273]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation on its fifteenth session and the decisions taken at that session;[274]

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[275]

3. *Stresses* that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

4. *Also stresses* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

5. *Highlights* the fact that, in spite of progress achieved in this area, further efforts are required to better understand the approaches and potential of South-South cooperation to enhance development effectiveness, including through national capacity development;

6. *Encourages* the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of developing countries, inter alia, through triangular cooperation;

7. *Encourages* the initiatives and arrangements, including public-private mechanisms, undertaken in the efforts to enhance cooperation between developing countries, including, inter alia, in the areas of the fight against poverty and hunger, access to information and communications technologies, science and technology, environment, culture, health, education and human development;

8. *Invites* the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation and the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund, as appropriate, to consider measures to strengthen further the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation within the United Nations Development Programme as a separate entity and a focal point for South-South cooperation in the United Nations system, so as to enable it to carry out its full responsibilities, in particular through the mobilization of resources for the advancement of South-South cooperation, including through triangular cooperation;

9. *Recognizes* the need to further assess the progress made by the United Nations development system in its support to South-South cooperation, particularly through the provision of resources for South-South cooperation, and mobilization of technical and financial resources for triangular cooperation, as well as to mainstream South-South cooperation in the work of the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies in the field;

10. *Also recognizes* the need to mobilize additional resources for enhancing South-South cooperation, and in this context invites the donor community, including Member States, to contribute generously to the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation and the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, in accordance with its resolution 57/263 of 20 December 2002;

11. *Reaffirms* that existing regular resources will continue to fund the activities of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, and encourages the Special Unit to explore and undertake intensive, innovative and additional resource mobilization initiatives to attract more resources, both financial and in kind, to supplement regular resources and other funds for activities involving South-South cooperation;

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[269] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[270] See resolution 60/1.

[271] A/55/74, annex II.

[272] A/58/683, annex II.

[273] A/60/111, annex II.

[274] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/62/39).

[275] A/62/295.

12. *Encourages* all Member States to deepen, intensify and enhance South-South cooperation, including through triangular cooperation, in all its aspects, as a continuing and vital process undertaken to help meet the challenges facing the countries of the South, especially least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in post-conflict and crisis situations;

13. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen and further invigorate South-South cooperation, in that regard decides to convene a High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[269] no later than the first half of 2009, and requests that the President of the General Assembly entrust the President of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation with undertaking the necessary consultations with Member States in order to prepare for the proposed conference, with a view to the Assembly's taking a decision, during its sixty-second session, on the nature, date, objectives and modalities of the conference, making use of the existing coordination mechanisms of the United Nations system;

14. *Welcomes* the generous offer of the Government of Argentina to host the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "South-South cooperation for development", and requests the Secretary-General to submit at that session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/210

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/425, para. 12)[276]

62/210. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999, 55/208 of 20 December 2000, 56/208 of 21 December 2001, 57/268 of 20 December 2002, 58/223 of 23 December 2003, 59/252 of 22 December 2004 and 60/213 of 22 December 2005 and its decision 61/542 of 20 December 2006,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[277]

Acknowledging the work of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the functioning of the Institute,

Expressing its deep gratitude for the dedication and commitment, as well as the accomplishments, of Mr. Marcel Boisard, Assistant Secretary-General and, for fifteen years, Executive Director of the Institute,

Noting the continued progress made by the Institute in its various programmes and activities, including the strengthened cooperation with other organizations of the United Nations system and with regional and national institutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting that the activities of the Institute have thus far been funded entirely from voluntary contributions,

Noting also that, despite the growing need for training and capacity development, voluntary contributions remain at a low level, putting at risk the Institute's core training courses that it delivers to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna,

Reiterating that training and capacity-development activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Notes* the strategic reforms introduced by the new Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, and endorsed by its Board of Trustees, for the Institute to be a centre of excellence;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of a coordinated United Nations system-wide approach to research and training, based on an effective coherent strategy and an effective division of work among the relevant institutions and bodies;

3. *Also reaffirms* the relevance of the Institute, in view of the growing importance of training and capacity development within the United Nations and the training requirements of States and local authorities, and the relevance of capacity development-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

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[276] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[277] A/62/377.

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training and capacity-development programmes, and in this context underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of those partnerships, in particular at the country level;

5. *Requests* the Board of Trustees to continue to ensure fair and equitable geographic distribution and transparency in the preparation of the programmes and in the employment of experts, and in this regard stresses that the courses of the Institute should focus primarily on development issues and the management of international affairs;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of using objective, impartial and scientific course materials, compatible with the objectives and priorities of the United Nations, and expects a better screening of the course materials utilized by the Institute;

7. *Urges* the Board of Trustees to complete expeditiously the implementation of the remaining recommendation made by the Board of Auditors in respect of the biennium 2002–2003, while appreciating the work done thus far;[278]

8. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the strategic reforms;

9. *Encourages* the Board of Trustees to continue its efforts to resolve the financial situation of the Institute, in particular with a view to broadening its donor base, and seeking more predictable and adequate support from Member States for its activities, in particular its core training activities;

10. *Decides* to streamline the reporting arrangements of the Institute through:

(*a*) Consolidation of the reports of the Secretary-General and the Executive Director of the Institute;

(*b*) Submission of the new consolidated report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council rather than to the General Assembly;

(*c*) Establishment of a biennial reporting cycle starting from 2009;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2008 a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including details on its financial implications, and the status of contributions to and the financial situation of the Institute.

RESOLUTION 62/211

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/426, para. 10)[279]

62/211. Towards global partnerships

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/215 of 21 December 2000, 56/76 of 11 December 2001, 58/129 of 19 December 2003 and 60/215 of 22 December 2005,

Reaffirming the vital role of the United Nations, including the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in the promotion of partnerships in the context of globalization,

Underlining the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations, and the central role and responsibility of Governments in national and international policymaking,

Reaffirming its resolve to create an environment, at the national and global levels alike, that is conducive to sustainable economic growth, poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability,

Taking note of the increasing number of public-private partnerships worldwide,

Recalling the objectives formulated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[280] notably the Millennium Development Goals, and the reaffirmation they have received in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[281] particularly in regard to developing partnerships through the provision of greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general so as to enable them to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization, in particular in the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty,

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[278] See A/60/113, annex, sect. IV.G.

[279] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay.

[280] See resolution 55/2.

[281] See resolution 60/1.

Recalling also that the 2005 World Summit encouraged the pursuit of responsible business practices,

Underlining the fact that cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, shall serve the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, can make concrete contributions to the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews, in particular in the area of development and the eradication of poverty, and shall be undertaken in a manner that maintains the integrity, impartiality and independence of the Organization,

Underlining also the importance of the contribution of the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society to the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

Welcoming, in this regard, the participation of civil society and private-sector entities in the multi-stakeholder consultations on financing for development, whose findings were presented at the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development held in New York on 23 and 24 October 2007,

Recognizing the need, where appropriate, to enhance the capacity of Member States to participate effectively in partnerships, at all levels, in accordance with national priorities and national legislation, and encouraging international support for such efforts in developing countries,

Emphasizing that all relevant partners, including the private sector, can contribute in several ways to addressing the obstacles confronted by developing countries in mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustainable development and to the realization of the development goals of the United Nations through, inter alia, financial resources, access to technology, management expertise and support for programmes, including through the reduced pricing of drugs, where appropriate, for the prevention, care and treatment of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases,

Welcoming the efforts and encouraging further efforts by all relevant partners, including the private sector, to engage as reliable and consistent partners in the development process and to take into account not only the economic and financial, but also the developmental, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of their undertakings and, in general, to accept and to implement corporate social and environmental responsibility, that is, bringing such values and responsibilities to bear on their conduct and policy premised on profit incentives, in conformity with national laws and regulations,

Welcoming also the continuous efforts by the Commission on Sustainable Development through its secretariat to promote partnerships for sustainable development, inter alia, through the implementation and expansion of an interactive online database as a platform to provide access to information on partnerships and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices and through the regular holding of partnership fairs at the sessions of the Commission,

Taking note with appreciation of the progress achieved in the work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces, commissions and initiatives, such as the Global Compact, launched by the Secretary-General, the Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development[282] and the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, and welcoming the establishment of a multitude of partnerships at the field level, entered into by various United Nations agencies, non-public partners and Member States, such as the United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners, in particular the private sector;[283]

2. *Stresses* that partnerships are voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task and, as mutually agreed, to share risks and responsibilities, resources and benefits;

3. *Also stresses* the importance of the contribution of voluntary partnerships to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, while reiterating that they are a complement to, but not intended to substitute for, the commitment made by Governments with a view to achieving these goals;

4. *Further stresses* that partnerships should be consistent with national laws and national development strategies and plans, as well as the priorities of countries where their implementation takes place, bearing in mind the relevant guidance provided by Governments;

5. *Recalls* that the 2005 World Summit welcomed the positive contributions of the private sector and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the promotion and implementation of development and human rights programmes, and also recalls that the 2005 World Summit resolved to enhance the contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in the promotion of the global partnership for development, and encouraged public-private partnerships in the following areas:

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[282] A/62/89-E/2007/76, annex.

[283] A/62/341.

the generation of new investments and employment, financing for development, health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;

6. *Recognizes* the role that public-private partnerships can play in efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, also recognizes the need to ensure that their activities conform fully with the principle of national ownership of development strategies, and further recognizes the need for effective accountability and transparency in their implementation;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to promote multi-stakeholder approaches in addressing the challenges of development in the context of globalization;

8. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to develop, for those partnerships in which it participates, a common and systemic approach, which places greater emphasis on impact, transparency, accountability and sustainability, without imposing undue rigidity in partnership agreements, and with due consideration being given to the following partnership principles: common purpose, transparency, bestowing no unfair advantages upon any partner of the United Nations, mutual benefit and mutual respect, accountability, respect for the modalities of the United Nations, striving for balanced representation of relevant partners from developed and developing countries and countries with economies in transition, sectoral and geographic balance, and not compromising the independence and neutrality of the United Nations;

9. *Also encourages* the activities of the United Nations Global Compact as an innovative public-private partnership to advance United Nations values and responsible business practices within the United Nations system and among the global business community, including through an increased number of local networks, acknowledges the special management, support, funding structure and position of the Global Compact within the United Nations system, which are specifically designed to reflect the diversity of its stakeholders, notes the activities of the Global Compact Office in this regard, and encourages it to continue its efforts, in particular in continuing to share relevant lessons learned and positive experiences from partnerships;

10. *Takes note with interest* of the second United Nations Global Compact Leaders Summit, held at the United Nations Office at Geneva on 5 and 6 July 2007, and of the partnerships launched;

11. *Acknowledges* the ongoing work of the United Nations on partnerships, notably in the framework of various United Nations organizations, agencies, funds, programmes, task forces and commissions, within their respective mandates, and in this regard encourages the provision of adequate training, as appropriate;

12. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations organizations and agencies to share relevant lessons learned and positive experiences from partnerships, including with the business community, as a contribution to the development of more effective United Nations partnerships;

13. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance partnership management through the promotion of adequate training at all concerned levels, institutional capacity in country offices, strategic focus and local ownership, the sharing of best practices, the improvement of partner selection processes and the streamlining of United Nations guidelines for partnerships between the United Nations and all relevant partners, including the private sector, and requests that such activities be continued, as appropriate;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to promote, within existing resources, impact-assessment mechanisms of partnerships, taking into account best tools available, in order to enable effective management, ensure accountability and facilitate effective learning from both successes and failures;

15. *Welcomes* innovative approaches to use partnerships as a means to better implement goals and programmes, in particular in support of the pursuit of development and the eradication of poverty, and encourages relevant United Nations bodies and agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to further explore such possibilities, bearing in mind their different mandates, modes of operation and objectives, as well as the particular roles of the non-public partners involved;

16. *Recommends*, in this context, that partnerships should also foster the elimination of all forms of discrimination, including on gender grounds, in respect of employment and occupation;

17. *Reiterates its call upon*:

(*a*) All bodies within the United Nations system that engage in partnerships to ensure the integrity and independence of the Organization and to include information on partnerships in their regular reporting, as appropriate, on their websites and through other means;

(*b*) Partners to provide to and exchange relevant information with Governments, other stakeholders and the relevant United Nations agencies and bodies and other international organizations with which they engage, in an appropriate way, including through reports, with particular attention to the importance of sharing among partnerships information on their practical experience;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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RESOLUTION 62/123

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/431, para. 17)[1]

62/123. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 2007/254 of 26 July 2007 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note also of the requests regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the letter dated 29 November 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Benin to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[2] the letter dated 8 January 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[3] the letter dated 28 June 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General[4] and the note verbale dated 10 May 2007 from the Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[5]

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from seventy-two to seventy-six States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional members at its resumed organizational session for 2008.

RESOLUTION 62/124

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/431, para. 17)[6]

62/124. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office[7] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fifty-eighth session[8] and the conclusions and decisions contained therein,

Recalling its previous annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since its establishment by the General Assembly,

Expressing its appreciation for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner, commending the staff and implementing partners of the Office of the High Commissioner for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities, and underlining its strong condemnation of all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are increasingly exposed,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fifty-eighth session;[8]

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Japan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Romania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

[2] E/2006/92.

[3] E/2007/11.

[4] E/2007/85.

[5] E/2007/86.

[6] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/62/12).

[8] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/62/12/Add.1).

2. *Welcomes* the important work undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Executive Committee in the course of the year, which is aimed at strengthening the international protection regime and at assisting Governments in meeting their protection responsibilities;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the important guidance provided in the Executive Committee conclusion on children at risk[9] to address issues of identification of these individuals and action to be taken in prevention, response and solutions;

4. *Reaffirms* the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[10] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[11] as the foundation of the international refugee protection regime, recognizes the importance of their full and effective application by States parties and the values they embody, notes with satisfaction that one hundred and forty-seven States are now parties to one instrument or to both, encourages States not parties to consider acceding to those instruments, underlines in particular the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement, and recognizes that a number of States not parties to the international refugee instruments have shown a generous approach to hosting refugees;

5. *Notes* that sixty-two States are now parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[12] and that thirty-four States are parties to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[13] encourages States that have not done so to give consideration to acceding to those instruments, notes the work of the High Commissioner in regard to identifying stateless persons, preventing and reducing statelessness and protecting stateless persons, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work in this area in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and Executive Committee conclusions;

6. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions, and strongly emphasizes, in this context, the importance of active international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing;

7. *Also re-emphasizes* that prevention and reduction of statelessness are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community;

8. *Further re-emphasizes* that protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community;

9. *Takes note* of the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the mandate of the Office for refugees and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the process of structural and management change being undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner, and encourages the Office to continue its pursuit of reforms, including the implementation of a results-based management framework and strategy, that would enable it to respond adequately and in a more efficient manner to the needs of its beneficiaries and ensure effective and transparent use of its resources;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to pursue its efforts to strengthen its capacity to respond adequately to emergencies and thereby ensure a more predictable response to inter-agency commitments in case of emergency;

12. *Strongly condemns* attacks on refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons as well as acts that pose a threat to their personal security and well-being, and calls upon all concerned States and, where applicable, parties involved in an armed conflict to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for human rights and international humanitarian law;

13. *Deplores* the refoulement and unlawful expulsion of refugees and asylum-seekers, and calls upon all concerned States to ensure respect for the relevant principles of refugee protection and human rights;

14. *Emphasizes* that international protection of refugees is a dynamic and action-oriented function that is at the core of the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner and that it includes, in cooperation with States and other partners, the promotion and facilitation of, inter alia, the admission, reception and treatment of refugees in accordance with internationally agreed standards and the ensuring of durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups and paying special attention to those with specific needs, and notes in this context that the delivery of international protection is a staff-intensive service that requires adequate staff with the appropriate expertise, especially at the field level;

15. *Affirms* the importance of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in analysing protection needs and in ensuring the participation of refugees and other persons of concern to the

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[9] Ibid., chap. III, sect. A.

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[11] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[12] Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.

[13] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

Office of the High Commissioner, as appropriate, in the planning and implementation of programmes of the Office and State policies, and also affirms the importance of according priority to addressing discrimination, gender inequality and the problem of sexual and gender-based violence, recognizing the importance of addressing the protection needs of women and children in particular;

16. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to refugee problems, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

17. *Expresses concern* about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, and emphasizes the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions;

18. *Recognizes* the importance of achieving durable solutions to refugee problems and, in particular, the need to address in this process the root causes of refugee movements in order to avert new flows of refugees;

19. *Recalls* the important role of effective partnerships and coordination in meeting the needs of refugees and in finding durable solutions to their situations, welcomes the efforts under way, in cooperation with countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, including their respective local communities, relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to promote a framework for durable solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations, which includes an approach to sustainable and timely return which encompasses repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, and encourages States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to support, inter alia, through the allocation of funds, the implementation of such a framework to facilitate an effective transition from relief to development;

20. *Recognizes* that no solution to displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of return and reintegration;

21. *Welcomes* the progress that has been achieved in increasing the number of refugees resettled and the number of States offering opportunities for resettlement, and the contribution that those States make to durable solutions to refugees, and invites interested States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement,[14] where appropriate and feasible;

22. *Notes* the progress that is being made by interested States and the Office of the High Commissioner to take forward elements outlined in the Mexico Plan of Action to Strengthen International Protection of Refugees in Latin America, adopted on 16 November 2004,[14] and expresses its support for the efforts to promote its implementation with the cooperation and assistance of the international community, as appropriate, as well as by supporting host communities that receive large numbers of persons who require international protection;

23. *Also notes* that some progress is being made by interested States and the Office of the High Commissioner within the context of the European-Asian Programme on Forced Displacement and Migration on issues related to asylum and forced displacement, consistent with the mandate of the Office;

24. *Further notes* the importance of States and the Office of the High Commissioner discussing and clarifying the role of the Office in mixed migratory flows, in order to better address protection needs in the context of mixed migratory flows, including by safeguarding access to asylum for those in need of international protection, and notes the readiness of the High Commissioner, consistent with his mandate, to assist States in fulfilling their protection responsibilities in this regard;

25. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

26. *Notes* the increasing number of displaced in and from Iraq and the impact of those flows of persons on the social and economic situation of countries in the region, expresses its appreciation for the convening of an international conference in April 2007 at Geneva in order to sensitize the international community to the deteriorating plight of those persons inside Iraq and outside its borders, and calls upon the international community to act in a targeted and coordinated manner to provide protection and increased assistance to the persons displaced to enable the countries in the region to strengthen their capacity to respond to the needs in partnership with the Office of the High Commissioner, other United Nations agencies, the

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[14] Available from www.unhcr.org.

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and non-governmental organizations;

27. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources with a view to enhancing the capacity of and reducing the heavy burden borne by host countries, in particular those that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, and calls upon the Office to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition;

28. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to further explore ways and means to broaden its donor base, so as to achieve greater burden-sharing by reinforcing cooperation with governmental donors, non-governmental donors and the private sector;

29. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential for the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it through its statute[15] and by subsequent General Assembly resolutions on refugees and other persons of concern, recalls its resolutions 58/153 of 22 December 2003, 58/270 of 23 December 2003, 59/170 of 20 December 2004, 60/129 of 16 December 2005 and 61/137 of 19 December 2006 concerning, inter alia, the implementation of paragraph 20 of the statute of the Office, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to annual and supplementary appeals issued by the Office for requirements under its programmes;

30. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his activities to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/125

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/431, para. 17)[16]

62/125. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[17] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[18]

Reaffirming that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[19] together with the 1967 Protocol thereto,[20] as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

Recognizing the particular vulnerability of women and children among refugees and other persons of concern, including exposure to discrimination and sexual and physical abuse,

Recognizing also that refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV/AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[21] and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[22]

2. *Notes* the need for African States to address resolutely root causes of all forms of forced displacement in Africa and to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent so as to forestall refugee flows;

3. *Notes with great concern* that, despite all of the efforts made so far by the United Nations, the African Union and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious, and calls upon States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and spirit of international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

4. *Welcomes* decision EX.CL/Dec.319 (X) on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its tenth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 25 and 26 January 2007;[23]

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[15] Resolution 428 (V), annex.

[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Angola (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey and United States of America.

[17] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[18] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[19] Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

[20] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[21] A/62/316.

[22] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/62/12).

[23] See African Union, document EX.CL/Dec.315–347 (X).

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and commends the Office for its ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African countries of asylum and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

6. *Notes* the initiatives taken by the African Union and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, in particular the role of its Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;

7. *Also notes* that the conclusion on children at risk, adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at its fifty-eighth session, held at Geneva from 1 to 5 October 2007,[24] is aimed at enhancing the assistance and protection provided by the Office of the High Commissioner to children, as defined under article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[25] who are asylum-seekers, stateless, refugees, internally displaced or returnees;

8. *Encourages* the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child to incorporate in their work the Executive Committee conclusion on children at risk;

9. *Affirms* that children, because of their age, social status and physical and mental development, are often more vulnerable than adults in situations of forced displacement, recognizes that forced displacement, return to post-conflict situations, integration in new societies, protracted situations of displacement and statelessness can increase the vulnerability of children generally, takes into account the particular vulnerability of refugee children to being forcibly exposed to the risks of physical and psychological injury, exploitation and death in connection with armed conflict, and acknowledges that wider environmental factors and individual risk factors, particularly when combined, can put children in situations of heightened risk;

10. *Recognizes* that no solution to displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of return and reintegration;

11. *Also recognizes* the importance of early registration and effective registration systems and censuses as a tool of protection and as a means to the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance and to implement appropriate durable solutions;

12. *Recalls* the conclusion on registration of refugees and asylum-seekers adopted by the Executive Committee at its fifty-second session,[26] notes the many forms of harassment faced by refugees and asylum-seekers who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, recalls the responsibility of States to register refugees on their territories, and, as appropriate, the responsibility of the Office of the High Commissioner or mandated international bodies to do so, reiterates in this context the central role that early and effective registration and documentation can play, guided by protection considerations, in enhancing protection and supporting efforts to find durable solutions, and calls upon the Office, as appropriate, to help States to conduct this procedure should they be unable to register refugees on their territory;

13. *Calls upon* the international community, including States and the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant United Nations organizations, within their respective mandates, to take concrete action to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and to contribute generously to projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight and facilitating durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of timely and adequate assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons, also reaffirms that assistance and protection are mutually reinforcing and that inadequate material assistance and food shortages undermine protection, notes the importance of a rights- and community-based approach in engaging constructively with individual refugees, returnees and displaced persons and their communities so as to achieve fair and equitable access to food and other forms of material assistance, and expresses concern in regard to situations in which minimum standards of assistance are not met, including those in which adequate needs assessments have yet to be undertaken;

15. *Also reaffirms* that respect by States for their protection responsibilities towards refugees is strengthened by international solidarity involving all members of the international community and that the refugee protection regime is enhanced through committed international cooperation in a spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing among all States;

16. *Further reaffirms* that host States have the primary responsibility to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character

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[24] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/62/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[25] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[26] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/56/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. B.

of asylum, calls upon States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements or used for purposes that are incompatible with their civilian character, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors, to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of camps;

17. *Condemns* all acts that pose a threat to the personal security and well-being of refugees and asylum-seekers, such as refoulement, unlawful expulsion and physical attacks, calls upon States of refuge, in cooperation with international organizations, where appropriate, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the humane treatment of asylum-seekers, notes with interest that the High Commissioner has continued to take steps to encourage the development of measures to better ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue those efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors;

18. *Deplores* the continuing violence and insecurity which constitute an ongoing threat to the safety and security of staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner and other humanitarian organizations and an obstacle to the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Office and the ability of its implementing partners and other humanitarian personnel to discharge their respective humanitarian functions, urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and ensure the safety and security of the personnel and property of the Office and that of all humanitarian organizations discharging functions mandated by the Office, and calls upon States to investigate fully any crime committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice the persons responsible for such crimes;

19. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the African Union, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the protection system for refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons;

20. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community and other concerned entities to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities, in particular those Governments that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers;

21. *Reaffirms* the right of return and the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, where appropriate and feasible, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

22. *Also reaffirms* that voluntary repatriation should not necessarily be conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin in order not to impede the exercise of the refugees' right to return, recognizes that the voluntary repatriation and reintegration process is normally guided by the conditions in the country of origin, in particular that voluntary repatriation can be accomplished in conditions of safety and dignity, and urges the High Commissioner to promote sustainable return through the development of durable and lasting solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations;

23. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide financial and material assistance that allows for the implementation of community-based development programmes that benefit both refugees and host communities, as appropriate, in agreement with host countries and consistent with humanitarian objectives;

24. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to the third-country resettlement needs of African refugees, notes in this regard the importance of using resettlement strategically, as part of situation-specific comprehensive responses to refugee situations, and to this end encourages interested States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make full use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement,[27] where appropriate;

25. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum;

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[27] Available from www.unhcr.org.

26. *Urges* the international community, in the spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, inter alia, as a result of repatriation possibilities, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

27. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner and interested States to identify protracted refugee situations which might lend themselves to resolution through the development of specific, multilateral, comprehensive and practical approaches to resolving such refugee situations, including improvement of international burden- and responsibility-sharing and realization of durable solutions, within a multilateral context;

28. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, notes the efforts of African States in strengthening the regional mechanisms for protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in that regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[28] takes note of the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

29. *Invites* the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, taking fully into account the efforts expended by countries of asylum, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions".

RESOLUTION 62/126

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/432, para. 47)[29]

62/126. Policies and programmes involving youth: youth in the global economy – promoting youth participation in social and economic development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond,

Recalling also its resolution 60/2 of 6 October 2005, in which it took note of the three clusters presented in the "World Youth Report 2005",[30] namely, youth in the global economy, youth in civil society, and youth and their well-being, and requested the Secretary-General to provide the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, through the Commission for Social Development at its forty-fifth session, with a comprehensive report on the implementation of the World Programme of Action, including the definition of goals and targets, in one of the three clusters of the World Programme of Action,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/27 of 26 July 2007, by which the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the Supplement to the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond,

Recalling Commission for Social Development resolution 45/2 of 16 February 2007,[31] in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with organizations, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to identify goals and targets regarding the cluster on youth in the global economy and to submit an addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the World Programme of Action[32] to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session,

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[28] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia.

[30] A/60/61-E/2005/7.

[31] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 6* (E/2007/26), chap. I, sect. E.

Recognizing that the implementation of the World Programme of Action and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, require the full and effective participation of young people and youth-led organizations and other civil society organizations at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Recognizing also the positive impact that youth participation in the global economy and in social and economic development can have on the eradication of poverty and hunger,

Recognizing further Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/32 of 27 July 2007 on the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and the decisions of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS at its twentieth meeting, held at Geneva from 25 to 27 June 2007, in particular the reference to the need to scale up HIV prevention among injecting drug users, consistent with relevant international drug control treaties,

1. *Reaffirms* the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;[33]

2. *Decides* to adopt the Supplement to the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, annexed to the present resolution;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the World Programme of Action[32] and the addendum thereto entitled "Goals and targets for monitoring the progress of youth in the global economy";[34]

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of a fair globalization, and recalls the resolve, expressed at the 2005 World Summit, to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;[35]

5. *Reiterates* that the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, particularly as they affect children and youth, is crucial for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, recalls the commitment to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all, and the need for urgent action on all sides, including more ambitious national development strategies and efforts backed by increased international support, and calls for the increased participation of youth and youth-led organizations in the development of such national development strategies;

6. *Reiterates also* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education in the achievement of poverty eradication and other development goals, as envisaged in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[36] in particular basic education and training for eradicating illiteracy, and stresses the commitments to strive for expanded secondary and higher education, especially for girls and young women, and for the creation of human resources and infrastructure capabilities and the empowerment of those living in poverty;

7. *Reiterates further* the need to intensify efforts to implement effectively the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade[37] and to integrate substantially those efforts in the Education for All process and other activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as other literacy initiatives within the framework of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

8. *Recognizes* that while youth today are better placed than ever before to participate in and benefit from global development, many young people remain marginalized, disconnected or excluded from the opportunities that globalization offers, and in this regard calls upon Member States, with the support of the international community, as appropriate:

(*a*) To integrate and protect youth in the global economy, including those who live in poverty, through the provision of policies that give them everywhere a real opportunity to find full and productive employment and decent work, including policies that promote the transition to work on the basis of equality and non-discrimination;

(*b*) To ensure that youth development, especially access of young people to food, water, health, shelter, education and employment, is specifically addressed in national policies and programmes, including poverty reduction strategy papers where they exist, and in other policy documents that aim to foster the participation of countries in the global economy;

(*c*) To ensure adequate funding for formal and non-formal education, including programmes geared at fostering the acquisition of requisite skills by youth;

(*d*) To improve the ability of young people, including those who live in poverty, to make a better transition into the world of work and enhance their access to the changing labour market through the promotion of policies that expand opportunities for youth to get quality education and training, the provision of skills development combined with other programmes that are targeted at the specific labour market needs of youth and that focus on the multiple needs of those most at risk of joblessness, and the incorporation of skills training into education planning at all stages;

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[32] A/62/61-E/2007/7.

[33] Resolution 50/81, annex.

[34] A/62/61/Add.1-E/2007/7/Add.1.

[35] See resolution 60/1, para. 47.

[36] See resolution 55/2.

[37] See A/57/218 and Corr.1.

(*e*) To reinforce links between policies on education, training, social integration and mobility so as to improve the situation of young people in the labour market and to reduce significantly youth unemployment while also supporting policies that promote reconciliation of family life and working life. equal opportunities, solidarity between the generations, health and lifelong learning;

(*f*) To encourage young people's entrepreneurship, including by promoting formal and non-formal education on entrepreneurship for young people, increasing their access to microfinancing and facilitating their participation in cooperatives and other forms of social, economic or financial enterprises;

(*g*) To develop national strategies to overcome the digital divide in each country and ensure that young people are equipped with knowledge and skills to use information and communications technology appropriately, including the capacity to analyse and treat information in creative and innovative ways and to share their expertise, thus enabling them to overcome the barriers of distance and socio-economic disadvantage, while also promoting involvement of young people in creating, repairing, managing and maintaining information and communications technology and providing them access to information on a range of issues that directly affect them, including health, education and employment;

(*h*) To ensure young women's equal access to education and vocational training at all levels in order to provide them with an equal opportunity to participate in the global economy;

(*i*) To recognize the rights of young persons with disabilities to education without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunity, including by ensuring an inclusive education system at all levels and lifelong learning, and to work, on an equal basis with others;

(*j*) To consider expanding avenues for regular labour migration, taking into account labour market needs and demographic trends, recognizing the important nexus between migration and development and bearing in mind that young people account for a large number of those migrating;

(*k*) To take all necessary measures to ensure the rights of young people to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and their access to sustainable health systems and social services, without discrimination, paying special attention to and raising awareness of nutrition, including eating disorders and obesity, and the effects of communicable diseases, and to sexual and reproductive health, including measures to prevent sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS;

(*l*) To ensure that national policies and programmes on youth development address the particular needs of young people who are in distressed circumstances or otherwise socially excluded or marginalized, including indigenous, migrant, refugee and displaced youth, young persons living in situations of armed conflict, terrorism, hostage-taking, aggression, foreign occupation, civil war or post-conflict settings, young people subjected to racism or xenophobia, street children, poor youth in urban or rural areas and youth affected by natural or man-made disasters;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the efforts of Governments, together with civil society, including youth-led organizations, the private sector and other parts of society, to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization and to maximize its benefits for young people;

10. *Urges* Member States to combat all forms of discrimination against young people, including that based on race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, and to promote equal opportunities for all;

11. *Underlines* the strategic importance of initiatives such as the Opportunities Fund for Urban Youth-led Development initiative of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,[38] which will provide resources to mobilize young people to strengthen youth-related policy formulation and to pilot and demonstrate new and innovative approaches to employment, good governance, water and sanitation, adequate shelter and secure tenure, and invites Member States to contribute to the Fund;

12. *Urges* Member States to involve young people and youth-led organizations in the development of national policies that affect them, where appropriate, including poverty reduction strategy papers where they exist, bearing in mind that girls, boys, young women and young men have the same rights;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to consider using the proposed goals and targets, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Goals and targets for monitoring the progress of youth in the global economy",[34] at the national level as a means of facilitating the monitoring of the progress of youth in the global economy and the implementation of the World Programme of Action;

14. *Also calls upon* Member States to ensure the full participation of young people and youth-led organizations in the development of policies designed to meet national youth goals

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[38] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/62/8), annex I.B, resolution 21/6.

and targets, taking into account the proposed goals and targets contained in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Goals and targets for monitoring the progress of youth in the global economy", and to collaborate with the United Nations system, young people, youth-led organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders in all efforts to achieve such goals and targets;

15. *Encourages* Member States to collect, on a continuous basis, youth-specific data disaggregated by age and sex, whenever possible, in order to create comprehensive databases within youth ministries or similar offices to assist in measuring progress in implementing the priority areas of the World Programme of Action, and requests the Secretary-General to devise means to disseminate such data widely so as to ensure that the global interest in youth development is informed by sound and adequate data;

16. *Takes note* of the process of collaboration and consultation between Member States, the organizations, programmes, regional commissions and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations in identifying the proposed goals and targets for measuring youth and the global economy, and recommends continued collaboration, including in the form of high-level training cooperation, between those actors in the implementation of the World Programme of Action and the monitoring of the progress of such implementation;

17. *Stresses* that progress in achieving the internationally agreed target of full and productive employment and decent work for young people should be a central objective of national and international efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and requests the United Nations agencies, and invites the international community and civil society as well as the private sector, to promote the broader youth development agenda and to strengthen international cooperation in order to support Member States in their efforts to achieve such progress, taking into account that the primary responsibility for ensuring youth development lies with States;

18. *Stresses also* the importance of ensuring that young people are recognized as active agents in decision-making processes and for positive change and development in society, urges Member States, in this regard, to consider including youth representatives in their delegations to all relevant discussions in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, bearing in mind the principles of gender balance and non-discrimination, and emphasizes that such youth representatives should be selected through a transparent process which ensures that they have a suitable mandate to represent young people in their countries;

19. *Recognizes* the positive contribution that youth representatives make to the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies and their role as an important channel of communication between young people and the United Nations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to support adequately the United Nations Programme on Youth of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat so that it can continue to facilitate their effective participation in meetings;

20. *Recognizes also* the need for a greater geographical balance of youth representation, and encourages Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund in order to facilitate the participation of youth representatives from developing countries;

21. *Recognizes further* that national youth councils or their equivalent bodies are effective channels of cooperation and information exchange between young people, their national Governments and other decision makers and that strong youth councils can provide opportunities for more young people to become active in decision-making and in shaping their societies, welcomes in this regard the political and financial support provided by Member States to their creation and sustained development, and invites all States to continue and to increase such support, where appropriate;

22. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development, at its forty-sixth session, to include youth employment in the discussions on its priority theme "Promoting full employment and decent work for all", taking into account, inter alia, the recommendations on youth employment contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the World Programme of Action,[32] and invites young people and youth-led organizations to contribute to those discussions;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, through the Commission for Social Development at its forty-seventh session, on the implementation of the World Programme of Action in the clusters on youth in civil society and youth and their well-being and to include in that report a comprehensive set of goals and targets for those clusters based on consultations with Member States as well as the organizations, programmes, regional commissions and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, young people, youth-led organizations and other non-governmental organizations.

Annex

Supplement to the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

I. Globalization

1. Globalization has opened new opportunities for sustained economic growth and the development of the world economy. Globalization has also permitted countries to share experiences and to learn from one another's achievements and difficulties and has promoted a cross-fertilization of ideas, cultural values and aspirations. Globalization has thus helped to connect youth not only to the rest of the world, but also with each other.

2. At the same time, the rapid processes of change and adjustment of globalization have been accompanied by intensified poverty, unemployment and social disintegration. Threats to human well-being, such as environmental risks, have also been globalized. Some countries have successfully adapted to the changes and benefited from globalization, but many others, especially least developed countries, have remained marginalized in the globalized world economy. The benefits are very unevenly shared, while the costs are unevenly distributed. Globalization should be fully inclusive and equitable. There is a strong need for appropriate policies and measures at the national and international levels to help countries to respond effectively to the challenges of globalization and the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

3. Many young people, especially in developing countries, remain marginalized from the global economy and lack the capabilities to access the opportunities that globalization offers. Many are restricted by inadequate education, limited skills, unemployment and poverty or are outside the reach of basic information and communication and the goods and services that have become available with globalization.

Proposals for action

Managing the effects of globalization on youth

4. The international community should continue to support the efforts of Governments, together with civil society, including youth-led organizations, the private sector and other parts of society, to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization and to maximize its benefits for young people.

5. Governments should ensure that access of youth to technical, secondary and higher education is improved and that curricula are adapted to meet the needs of a rapidly changing labour market associated with globalization. The transition from learning to work should also be facilitated.

6. Governments should foster the conditions that provide opportunities, jobs and social services for youth in their home countries. Efforts should be made to guarantee that young migrants enjoy full respect for their human rights, including fair and equal treatment with others and the protection of law against, inter alia, violence, exploitation and discrimination such as racism, ethnocentrism, xenophobia and cultural intolerance, and access to economic opportunities and social services, as appropriate.

Promoting youth employment and skills development in the context of globalization

7. In order to overcome the mismatch between the skills that youth possess and the specialized demands of labour markets shaped by globalization, Governments, with appropriate support from the international community, should provide funding and opportunities in both formal and non-formal education for youth to acquire requisite skills, including through skills development programmes.

8. At the same time, Governments should promote access to work through integrated policies that enable the creation of new and quality jobs for young people and that facilitate access to those jobs.

Establishing ways of monitoring systems to track the effects of globalization on youth

9. Governments should assess the extent to which the benefits of globalization are accessible to youth and should design and implement programmes to enable youth to better harness the benefits of globalization.

II. Information and communications technology

10. Information and communications technology (ICT) and infrastructures are growing in importance as a part of everyday business and interaction. This process can be enhanced by removing barriers to universal, ubiquitous, equitable and affordable access to information, which hinder the bridging of the digital divide, particularly those that impede the full achievement of the economic, social and cultural development of countries and the welfare of their people, especially youth, in particular in developing countries. ICT has enormous potential to expand access to quality education, to boost literacy and universal primary education and to facilitate the learning process itself, thus laying the groundwork for the establishment of a fully inclusive and development-oriented information society and knowledge economy that respects cultural and linguistic diversity.

11. Youth have a particular interest and ability with regard to modern technology. ICT can empower youth by providing them with the opportunity to overcome the barriers of distance and socio-economic disadvantage. Through the Internet, for example, young people can have access to information on a range of issues that directly affect them, including health, education and employment. This information can be used to improve the quality of life of youth and their communities. This process can be facilitated if Governments, civil society, the private sector, families, youth-led organizations and other groups work together to open up avenues for a cultural and social exchange among young people. Governments can also capitalize on the interest of the young in ICT to alleviate poverty. For example, youth can become engaged not only in the use of ICT, but also in the development and engineering of locally relevant software design and hardware.

12. ICT offers new ways to address the needs of youth with disabilities who cannot access traditional sources of information and employment. Vulnerable groups of the population can capitalize on ICT to make a better connection with society and advance their education and employment opportunities.

Proposals for action

Making information and communications technology available to all youth

13. Governments, supported by the international community, as appropriate, should facilitate access to ICT for all youth, including those in difficult-to-reach areas, such as rural areas, and in indigenous communities. Governments should evaluate inequalities in access that exist between urban and rural youth and between young women and men and should develop national strategies to overcome the digital divide in each country, thus decreasing the proportion of youth who have no access to ICT.

14. Governments should develop domestic policies to ensure that ICT is fully and appropriately integrated into education and training at all levels, including in the development of curricula, teacher training and institutional administration and management, as well as in support of the concept of lifelong learning.

15. Governments, with the support of the international community, should promote and encourage local knowledge systems and locally produced content in media and communications, support the development of a wide range of ICT-based programmes in local languages, as appropriate, with content relevant to different groups of young persons, especially young women, and build the capacity of girls and women to develop ICT.

Providing training to facilitate use of information and communications technology

16. Governments, in collaboration with relevant actors in the information society, should ensure that young people are equipped with knowledge and skills to use ICT appropriately, including the capacity to analyse and treat information in creative and innovative ways, to share their expertise and to participate fully in the information society. Efforts should be made to provide special training courses for in-school and out-of-school youth to enable them to become conversant with ICT and to facilitate their use of such technologies.

Protecting youth from the harmful aspects of information and communications technology

17. Governments should strengthen action to protect youth from abuse and to defend their rights in the context of the use of ICT. In that context, the best interests of youth are a primary consideration. Governments should promote responsible behaviour and raise awareness of possible risks for young people arising from the harmful aspects of ICT in order that they may protect themselves from possible exploitation and injury.

18. Governments, in cooperation with relevant actors in the information society, should strengthen action to protect children and youth from abuse and the harmful impact of ICT, in particular through cybercrimes, including child pornography.

Promoting the use of information and communications technology by persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups

19. Governments should facilitate the development of ICT capacity for youth, including indigenous youth, youth with disabilities and youth in remote and rural communities.

20. Governments should initiate the development and use of special technical and legal arrangements to make ICT accessible to all youth, including indigenous youth, youth with disabilities and youth in remote and rural communities.

Empowering young people as key contributors to building an inclusive information society

21. Governments should actively engage youth in innovative ICT-based development programmes and should widen opportunities for youth involvement in e-strategy processes in a manner that encourages youth to assume leadership roles. The role of youth in creating, repairing, managing and maintaining ICT should also be recognized and encouraged.

22. Bearing in mind that literacy and numeracy are preconditions for access to and effective use of ICT, Governments should promote opportunities through formal and non-formal channels for young persons to acquire the appropriate knowledge.

23. ICT should also be used to enhance education, employment and youth participation in the decision-making process. ICT should be used to improve the quality of education and to better prepare youth for the demands of the information society.

III. HIV/AIDS

24. The HIV/AIDS epidemic is increasingly a problem of youth, especially in parts of the developing world. Governments have noted with grave concern the fact that new HIV infections are heavily concentrated among youth and that there is a lack of information available to help youth to understand their sexuality, including their sexual and reproductive health, in order to increase their ability to protect themselves from HIV infection and sexually transmitted diseases and to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

25. Young people, especially young women in Africa, face especially high risks of HIV infection. Young people and women are particularly vulnerable to infection owing to their lack of economic and social power and their lack of the capability to decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality in order to increase their ability to protect themselves from HIV infections. They often lack the tools and information required to avoid infection and cope with AIDS. In 2006, women and girls made up 57 per cent of all people infected with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, where a striking 76 per cent of young people (aged 15 to 24) living with HIV are female.

26. Although many children orphaned by AIDS have not yet entered the youth age groups, they are at great risk of becoming youth with severe vulnerabilities. They are subject to malnutrition, illness, abuse, child labour and sexual exploitation, and these factors increase their vulnerability to HIV infection. They also suffer the stigma and discrimination often associated with HIV/AIDS and may be denied education, work, housing and other basic needs as a result.

27. It is imperative that young people continue to have access to evidence- and skills-based youth-specific HIV education to enable them to avoid high-risk behaviour. In some regions youth, especially girls, play a key role in caring for HIV/AIDS patients or their orphans. To ensure that young caregivers stay in school, build their skills and have the chance to generate an income, Governments should provide economic and social support to families that rely on young caregivers as well as support for improving home- and community-based care.

28. Because youth often lack decision-making power and financial resources, they may be the last to receive treatment if they become infected. Programmes should scale up the provision of treatment as part of the promotion of the highest attainable standards of health.

29. It is essential for Governments to implement fully the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session on 27 June 2001,[39] and to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the goal to halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015. In addition, Governments should implement the commitments dealing with HIV/AIDS reached at all major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit[40] and the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS held on 2 June 2006,[41] at which Member States committed themselves to scaling up responses directed towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010 and towards achieving the goal of universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development.

Proposals for action

Raising awareness about HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment for youth

30. Governments should ensure that prevention of HIV infection is the mainstay of national, regional and international responses to the pandemic and should therefore commit themselves to intensifying efforts to ensure that a wide range of prevention programmes which take into account local circumstances, ethics and cultural values are available in all countries, in particular the most affected countries, including: information, education and communications, in languages most understood within communities and with respect for their cultures, aimed at reducing risk-taking behaviours and encouraging responsible sexual behaviour, including abstinence and fidelity; expanded access to essential commodities, including male and female condoms and sterile injecting equipment; harm-reduction efforts related to drug use; expanded access to voluntary and confidential counselling and testing; safe blood supplies; and early and effective treatment of sexually transmitted infections.

31. Governments should commit themselves to addressing the rising rates of HIV infection among young people in order to ensure that future generations may be free of HIV infection through the implementation of comprehensive evidence-based prevention strategies, responsible sexual behaviour, including the use of condoms, evidence- and skills-based youth-specific HIV education, mass media interventions and the provision of youth-friendly health services.

32. Governments should provide access to the highest attainable standards of affordable and youth-friendly health care in order to increase the capacities of young people to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection, principally through the provision of health care and health services, including for sexual and reproductive health, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[42] that integrate HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care and include confidential voluntary counselling and testing and involve young people in the planning, implementation and evaluation of those efforts.

33. Governments should promote initiatives aimed at reducing the prices of antiretroviral drugs, especially second-line drugs, available to young people, including initiatives undertaken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms that contribute to the mobilization of resources for social development, including those that aim to provide further drug access at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis.

34. In recognition of the fact that HIV/AIDS is increasingly affecting youth in both developed and developing countries, all efforts should be made, in full partnership with young persons, parents, families, educators and health-care providers, to ensure that youth have access to accurate information, education, including peer education and youth-specific HIV education, and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection.

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[39] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[40] See resolution 60/1.

[41] See resolution 60/262, annex.

[42] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

35. Governments should involve young people, including youth living with HIV/AIDS, inter alia, through their respective youth organizations and, as appropriate, with the support of their families, in the decision-making, planning, implementation and evaluation of HIV/AIDS prevention and care programmes.

36. Governments should ensure that prevention programmes include counselling for those who are infected with HIV in order to ensure that they take appropriate precautions to prevent the spread of the virus and to help them to cope with the effects of living with HIV/AIDS.

Supporting universal HIV/AIDS education, taking gender inequalities into account

37. Trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and sexual slavery increases the vulnerability of young women to HIV/AIDS infection and is linked to the widespread feminization of poverty, sex tourism, sweatshops and other detrimental consequences of globalization. Governments should devise, enforce and strengthen effective youth-sensitive measures to combat, eliminate and prosecute all forms of trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual and economic exploitation, as part of a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy within wider efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls.

38. Governments should include appropriate information in school curricula and non-formal training programmes on the effects of high-risk behaviour, including intravenous drug use, on the transmission of HIV infection.

39. Governments should give special attention, in all programmes aimed at providing information about and preventing HIV/AIDS among youth, to aspects of gender and to the disproportionate vulnerability of girls and young women.

Legislation and legal instruments to protect vulnerable youth

40. Governments should ensure non-discrimination and full and equal enjoyment of all human rights through the promotion of an active and visible policy of destigmatization of children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS.

41. Governments should strengthen legal, policy, administrative and other measures for the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of all human rights by youth, the protection of their dignity and the reduction of their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS through the elimination of all forms of discrimination and all types of sexual exploitation of young girls and boys, including for commercial reasons, as well as all forms of violence against women and girls, including harmful traditional and customary practices, abuse, rape and other forms of sexual violence, battering and trafficking in women and girls.

42. Governments should intensify efforts to enact, strengthen or enforce, as appropriate, legislation, regulations and other measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination and to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by youth living with HIV, including policies to secure their access to education, inheritance, employment, health care, social and health services, prevention, support and treatment, information and legal protection, while respecting their privacy and confidentiality and developing strategies to combat the stigma and social exclusion connected with the epidemic.

IV. Armed conflict

43. Development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. The scale of the violence perpetrated against civilians, including youth, in the past couple of decades is extremely worrisome. Armed conflicts have resulted in killings, the massive displacement of people, including youth, and the destruction of communities, which has impacted negatively on their development.

44. Youth are often among the main victims of armed conflict. Children and youth are killed or maimed, made orphans, abducted, taken hostage, forcibly displaced, deprived of education and health care and left with deep emotional scars and trauma. Children illegally recruited as child soldiers are often forced to commit serious abuses. Armed conflict destroys the safe environment provided by a house, a family, adequate nutrition, education and employment. During conflict, health risks increase among youth, especially young women. Young women and girls face additional risks, in particular those of sexual violence and exploitation.

45. During conflict, young men and women who are forced to take on "adult" roles miss out on opportunities for personal or professional development. When conflict ends, many of the young people who must make the transition to adulthood while dealing with the traumas of war are at the same time required to adapt quickly to their new roles, often as parents and caretakers of the victims of war. Without services to help them to deal with their situation, youth and young adults may fail to integrate into society.

Proposals for action

Protecting youth under age 18 from direct involvement in armed conflict

46. Governments should ensure that children benefit from an early age from education about values, attitudes, modes of behaviour and ways of life in order to enable them to resolve any dispute peacefully and in a spirit of respect for human dignity, with tolerance and non-discrimination. Governments should promote a culture of peace, tolerance and dialogue, including in both formal and non-formal education.

47. Governments should consider, as a matter of priority, the ratification and effective implementation of the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the

Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182) of the International Labour Organization.

48. Governments should take all feasible measures to ensure that members of their armed forces who have not attained the age of 18 years do not take direct part in hostilities and that those who have not attained the age of 18 years are not compulsorily recruited into their armed forces.

49. Governments should take all necessary measures, in accordance with international humanitarian law and human rights law, as a matter of priority, to prevent the recruitment and use of children by armed groups, as distinct from the armed forces of a State, including the adoption of policies that do not tolerate the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, and the legal measures necessary to prohibit and criminalize such practices.

50. Governments should protect young persons in situations of armed conflict, post-conflict settings and settings involving refugees and internally displaced persons, where youth are at risk of violence and where their ability to seek and receive redress is often restricted, bearing in mind that peace is inextricably linked with equality between young women and young men and development, that armed and other types of conflicts and terrorism and hostage-taking still persist in many parts of the world, and that aggression, foreign occupation and ethnic and other types of conflicts are an ongoing reality affecting young persons in nearly every region, from which they need to be protected.

Providing for the reintegration of youth ex-combatants and protection of non-combatants

51. Governments should provide opportunities for all youth who have been engaged in active combat, whether voluntarily or by force, to demobilize and contribute to society's development if they seek to do so. In this regard, Governments should establish programmes to provide opportunities for youth ex-combatants to retool and retrain so as to facilitate their employment in economic activity and their reintegration into society, including family reunification.

52. Governments should take all appropriate measures to promote physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of children and young victims of armed conflicts, in particular by restoring access of those children and youth to health care and education, including through Education for All programmes, as well as to put in place effective youth employment strategies to help provide a decent living for young people and to facilitate their reintegration into society.

Promoting active involvement of youth in maintaining peace and security

53. Governments should encourage the involvement of young people, where appropriate, in activities concerning the protection of children and youth affected by armed conflict, including programmes for reconciliation, peace consolidation and peacebuilding.

V. Intergenerational issues

54. Many aspects of the demographic transition, global economic development and globalization have influenced opportunities for the intergenerational exchange of knowledge, ideas and resources. The increase in lifespan implies that many adults may be able to share knowledge and resources with younger generations over a longer period of time. In recent times, greater longevity has resulted in situations where many older people live for longer periods in some form of dependency on younger generations. On the other hand, trends in globalization and development have resulted in situations where many young people are cut off from their families. In many developing countries and countries with economies in transition, it is the ageing population that is dominant in rural areas owing to the exodus of young adults. Older persons may be left behind without the traditional support of families and even without adequate financial resources. While older persons lose opportunities to receive support from younger members of families, younger persons also lose opportunities to benefit from the knowledge and guidance of older members of their families.

55. At the family and community levels, intergenerational ties can be valuable for everyone. Individual and family choices, geographical mobility and the pressures of contemporary life can keep people apart, yet the great majority of people in all cultures maintain close relations with their families throughout their lives. These relationships work in both directions, with older persons often providing significant contributions financially, emotionally and in respect of the education and care of grandchildren and other kin, thereby making a crucial contribution to the stability of the family unit.

56. The weakening of intergenerational connections in the context of ageing societies implies that various needs of youth, children and older persons, which may have been supported through intricate and complex familial relationships, are increasingly not being met and are instead becoming the responsibility of the State or the private sector.

57. It is therefore incumbent on Governments and relevant sectors of society to develop programmes that renew or restore intergenerational solidarity. Where there has already been substantial erosion of the ability of communities to meet this objective, Governments should intervene to ensure that basic needs for protection are met.

Proposals for action

Strengthening families

58. While respecting individual preferences for living arrangements, all sectors of society, including Governments, should develop programmes to strengthen families and to foster intergenerational relations.

Empowering young women

59. Governments should promote greater participation by young women in the labour force, including those living in rural and remote areas, by providing and developing the necessary skills to enable them to find employment, especially taking measures to eliminate male and female stereotypes, promoting role models and facilitating better reconciliation of work and family life.

Strengthening intergenerational solidarity

60. Government and private sector businesses should capitalize on the opportunity to use the experience and skills of older workers to train younger and newer employees.

61. Governments should promote equality and solidarity between generations, including by offering young people full and effective participation in poverty eradication, employment creation and social integration programmes within their societies.

62. All sectors of society should be encouraged to develop reciprocity in learning, which provides older persons with opportunities to learn from younger generations.

63. Where traditional forms of social support have been reduced by migration, globalization and related situations, Governments should work with non-governmental organizations and the private sector to provide assistance and support to older caregivers, especially those providing care for HIV/AIDS orphans, in meeting the needs of their children and grandchildren.

64. Governments should take steps to strengthen solidarity among generations and intergenerational partnerships through the promotion of activities that support intergenerational communication and understanding, and should encourage mutually responsive relationships between generations.

65. The full and effective participation of young people and youth organizations at the local, national, regional and international levels is important for the realization of the Millennium Development Goals, the promotion and implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, and the evaluation of the progress achieved and the obstacles encountered in its implementation, and for support of the activities of mechanisms that have been set up by young people and youth organizations. Governments should encourage their participation in actions and decisions and in strengthening efforts to implement the World Programme of Action, bearing in mind that girls, boys, young women and young men have the same rights, but different needs and strengths, and that they are active agents in decision-making processes and for positive change and development in society.

RESOLUTION 62/127

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/432, para. 47)[43]

62/127. Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning persons with disabilities, particularly resolution 60/131 of 16 December 2005, in which it recognized the important role of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[44] in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling also its resolutions on the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,[45]

Welcoming the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto[46] on 13 December 2006,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit, held from 14 to 16 September 2005, at which Heads of State and Government, inter alia, expressed their resolve to ensure the timely and full realization of development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, [47] and recognizing the importance of incorporating the perspective of persons with disabilities in the implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits, with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[48]

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[43] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[44] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation I (IV).

[45] Resolution 48/96, annex.

[46] Resolution 61/106, annexes I and II.

[47] See resolution 60/1, para. 17.

[48] See resolution 55/2.

Aware that there are at least 650 million persons with disabilities worldwide and that the majority of them live in conditions of poverty, and in this regard recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty on persons with disabilities,

Convinced that addressing the profound social, cultural and economic disadvantage experienced by many persons with disabilities and that promoting the progressive removal of barriers to their full and effective participation in all aspects of development will further the equalization of opportunities and contribute to the realization of a "society for all" in the twenty-first century,

Reaffirming the need to include the rights of persons with disabilities in the development efforts at the national, regional and international levels to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard stressing the need to improve the complementarity and synergy in the implementation of the three main United Nations mechanisms, namely, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, each of which constitutes an important building-block in the steps to achieve time-bound and quantifiable commitments set forth in the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

Recognizing the importance of the principles and policy guidelines contained in the World Programme of Action, the Convention and the Standard Rules in influencing the promotion, formulation and evaluation of the policies, plans, programmes and actions at the national, regional and international levels to further equalize opportunities for persons with disabilities,

Convinced that the forthcoming periodic reviews of global progress as well as obstacles encountered in implementing the outcome of the Millennium Summit require the inclusion of an evaluation of the measures taken to achieve the Millennium Development Goals as they impact on persons with disabilities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[49]

2. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development;

3. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto[46] as a matter of priority;

4. *Expresses concern* about the persistent gap between policy and practice regarding mainstreaming the perspective of persons with disabilities, including their rights and well-being, in the work of the United Nations in realizing the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Encourages* States to involve persons with disabilities on an equal basis with other persons in the formulation of strategies and plans, in particular those pertaining to them;

6. *Encourages* States, in cooperation with, inter alia, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations as well as regional and international financial institutions, and the private sector, as appropriate, to be guided by the objectives of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[44] as well as those of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[45] in their work and to examine and ensure that development strategies, policies and programmes aimed at implementing internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are inclusive of issues concerning persons with disabilities and promote the equalization of opportunities for all by:

(*a*) Ensuring accessibility, also through reasonable accommodation to enable persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life and to participate as agents and beneficiaries of development;

(*b*) Providing appropriate and accessible social services and safety nets for persons with disabilities to ensure improved well-being for all;

(*c*) Ensuring an adequate standard of living and social protection for persons with disabilities, including through access to poverty and hunger eradication programmes, inclusive quality education, in particular free and compulsory primary education and secondary education, as well as the same range, quality and standard of free or affordable health care as provided to other persons, and the promotion of full employment and decent work for all;

(*d*) Promoting and strengthening national capacities for participatory, democratic and accountable processes and mechanisms that further the equalization of opportunities for the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in civil and political, economic, social and cultural life;

7. *Encourages* States to collect and analyse appropriate information, including statistical and research data that are disaggregated by age and sex, on the situation of persons with disabilities, bearing in mind appropriate protection of personal data, for purposes of policy planning, analysis and evaluation that include the perspective of persons with disabilities, and in this regard invites States to avail themselves of the technical services of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat;

8. *Urges* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including agencies, funds and programmes, and invites international and regional development finance institutions to

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[49] A/62/157.

take concrete measures to incorporate the perspective of persons with disabilities, including accessibility requirements, in development cooperation and development finance activities;

9. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations, concerned non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue to support the Fund with a view to strengthening its capacity to support catalytic and innovative activities to implement fully the development goals and objectives of the World Programme of Action, the Standard Rules and the Convention, including the work of the Special Rapporteur, and to facilitate international cooperation, including building national capacities, with emphasis on priorities for action identified in the present resolution;

10. *Encourages* all relevant parties to bear in mind the situation of persons with disabilities in the United Nations system-wide coherence discussions, without prejudice to the outcome of those discussions;

11. *Calls upon* States to include in country reports, in connection with the forthcoming periodic reviews of progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, a review and evaluation of the impact of development efforts on the rights, well-being and livelihood of persons with disabilities;

12. *Reaffirms its commitment* to respect and promote, without discrimination, the rights of indigenous persons with disabilities, and urges States to take effective measures to continue to improve their economic and social conditions;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give higher priority to concerns and issues of persons with disabilities and their inclusion within the work programme of the United Nations system and within existing resources, and to strengthen the role of the United Nations and its development programmes and agencies in mainstreaming disability issues, taking into account the perspective of persons with disabilities within the work of the United Nations system by:

(*a*) Promoting the inclusion of the perspective of persons with disabilities in the policies, programmes and projects of the Secretariat and the other United Nations bodies and agencies on a broader scale and with higher priority, on the basis of a holistic approach in the work done in the fields of social development, human rights and non-discrimination, and in this regard ensuring that the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses is inclusive of the perspective of persons with disabilities;

(*b*) Further strengthening action in all countries and providing assistance to developing countries, in particular to least developed countries, with special attention to persons with disabilities in vulnerable circumstances;

(*c*) Assisting Member States in formulating comprehensive and coherent policies and action plans, as well as projects, including pilot projects, that promote, inter alia, international cooperation and technical assistance, particularly to enhance the capacities of government agencies, as well as civil society, including organizations of persons with disabilities, to implement programmes on disability;

14. *Decides* that the fifth review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action, to be conducted by the General Assembly in 2008, shall direct special attention to the issues raised in the present resolution;

15. *Also decides* to rename the International Day of Disabled Persons, observed every year on 3 December, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To submit an analytical and policy-oriented report on the fifth review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session as a contribution to the forthcoming periodic reviews of the progress as well as obstacles encountered in implementing the goals of the Millennium Summit, particularly the Millennium Development Goals;

(*b*) To present, as an annex to the report requested in subparagraph (*a*) above, proposed updates of the World Programme of Action, in accordance with paragraph 201 of the World Programme, bearing in mind the current situation of persons with disabilities around the world, as well as the developments in the global policy framework regarding persons with disabilities, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

RESOLUTION 62/128

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/432, para. 47)[50]

62/128. Cooperatives in social development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/90 of 16 December 1992, 49/155 of 23 December 1994, 51/58 of 12 December 1996, 54/123 of 17 December 1999, 56/114 of 19 December 2001, 58/131 of 22 December 2003 and 60/132 of 16 December 2005 concerning cooperatives in social development,

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[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

Recognizing that cooperatives, in their various forms, promote the fullest possible participation in economic and social development of all people, including women, youth, older people, people with disabilities and indigenous peoples, are becoming a major factor of economic and social development and contribute to the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing also the important contribution and potential of all forms of cooperatives to the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including their five-year reviews, the World Food Summit, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the 2005 World Summit,

Noting with appreciation the potential role of cooperative development in the improvement of the social and economic conditions of the indigenous peoples and rural communities,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperatives in social development;[51]

2. *Draws the attention* of Member States to the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General for further action to promote the growth of cooperatives as business and social enterprises that can contribute to sustainable development, eradication of poverty and livelihoods in various economic sectors in urban and rural areas and provide support for the creation of cooperatives in new and emerging areas;

3. *Encourages* Governments to keep under review, as appropriate, the legal and administrative provisions governing the activities of cooperatives in order to enhance the growth and sustainability of cooperatives in a rapidly changing socio-economic environment by, inter alia, providing a level playing field for cooperatives vis-à-vis other business and social enterprises, including appropriate tax incentives and access to financial services and markets;

4. *Urges* Governments, relevant international organizations and the specialized agencies, in collaboration with national and international cooperative organizations, to give due consideration to the role and contribution of cooperatives in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including their five-year reviews, the World Food Summit, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the 2005 World Summit by, inter alia:

(*a*) Utilizing and developing fully the potential and contribution of cooperatives for the attainment of social development goals, in particular the eradication of poverty, the generation of full and productive employment and the enhancement of social integration;

(*b*) Encouraging and facilitating the establishment and development of cooperatives, including taking measures aimed at enabling people living in poverty or belonging to vulnerable groups, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and indigenous peoples, to fully participate, on a voluntary basis, in cooperatives and to address their social service needs;

(*c*) Taking appropriate measures aimed at creating a supportive and enabling environment for the development of cooperatives by, inter alia, developing an effective partnership between Governments and the cooperative movement through joint consultative councils and/or advisory bodies and by promoting and implementing better legislation, research, sharing of good practices, training, technical assistance and capacity-building of cooperatives, especially in the fields of management, auditing and marketing skills;

(*d*) Raising public awareness of the contribution of cooperatives to employment generation and to socio-economic development and promoting comprehensive research and statistical data-gathering on the activities, employment and overall socio-economic impact of cooperatives at the national and international levels;

5. *Invites* Governments, in collaboration with the cooperative movement, to develop programmes aimed at enhancing capacity-building of cooperatives, including by strengthening the organizational, management and financial skills of their members, and to introduce and support programmes to improve the access of cooperatives to new technologies;

6. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations, the specialized agencies and local, national and international cooperative organizations to continue to observe the International Day of Cooperatives annually, on the first Saturday of July, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/90;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations and other international organizations and national, regional and international cooperative organizations, to continue rendering support to Member States, as appropriate, in their efforts to create a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, providing assistance for human resources development, technical advice and training and promoting an exchange of experience and best practices through, inter alia, conferences, workshops and seminars at the national and regional levels;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and the relevant international organizations, to consider effective ways and means of raising public awareness of the overall socio-economic impact of

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[51] A/62/154.

cooperatives, including the desirability and the feasibility of proclaiming an International Year of Cooperatives, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/129

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/432, para. 47)[52]

62/129. Follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004 and 60/133 of 16 December 2005 concerning the proclamation of the International Year of the Family and the preparations for, observance of and follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

Noting that in paragraph 5 of its resolution 59/111 and paragraph 2 of its resolution 59/147, respectively, the General Assembly underlined the need to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and to develop concrete measures and approaches to address national priorities in dealing with family issues,

Noting also that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recognizing that the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004 constituted an important opportunity to strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of efforts at all levels to carry out specific programmes within the framework of the objectives of the Year,

Aware that a major objective of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family is to strengthen national institutions in formulating, implementing and monitoring policies in respect of families,

Recognizing the need for additional capacity-building at the national and regional levels in order to promote and facilitate the implementation of the mandated objectives of the International Year of the Family, taking into account that national capacity development in the area of family policymaking continues to be a major concern for many countries,

Convinced of the necessity of ensuring an action-oriented follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family beyond 2004,

Recognizing the important catalytic and supportive role of United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and the regional commissions in ensuring an action-oriented follow-up in the field of the family,

Cognizant of the need for continued inter-agency cooperation on family issues in order to generate greater awareness of this subject among the governing bodies of the United Nations system,

Convinced that civil society, including research and academic institutions, has a pivotal role in advocacy, promotion, research and policymaking in respect of family policy development and capacity-building,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,[53]

1. *Encourages* Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;

2. *Commends* the important contribution made by all Member States at all levels to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family, and in this regard welcomes the efforts of Member States to pursue these objectives, including those of the Government of Qatar, which has established an International Institute for Family Studies and Development;

3. *Urges* Member States to create a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of the child;

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[52] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Russian Federation, United States of America and Uzbekistan.

[53] A/62/132 and Add.1.

4. *Invites* Governments to continue to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues, and encourages the United Nations Programme on the Family, within its mandate, to assist Governments in this regard, including through the provision of technical assistance to build and develop national capacities in the area of formulating, implementing and monitoring family policies;

5. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

6. *Recommends* that United Nations agencies and bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, research and academic institutions and the private sector play a supportive role in promoting the objectives of the International Year of the Family and contribute to developing strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

8. *Decides* to consider the topic "Follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family" at its sixty-fourth session under the item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family".

RESOLUTION 62/130

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/432, para. 47)[54]

62/130. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration[55] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[56] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005 and 61/142 of 19 December 2006,

Recalling also Commission for Social Development resolution 42/1 of 13 February 2004,[57] in which the Commission decided to undertake the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years,

Mindful that, in its resolution 44/1 of 17 February 2006,[58] the Commission decided to start the first global cycle of review and appraisal in 2007 at its forty-fifth session and to conclude it in 2008 at its forty-sixth session,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[59]

1. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, particularly older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002[56] and in their national strategies;

2. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to actively take part in the participatory bottom-up approach of the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action, through, inter alia, sharing ideas, data collection and best practices and reporting on them to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-sixth session in 2008;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations regional commissions to consolidate the national findings of the review and appraisal by involving, inter alia, representatives of organizations of older persons from various regions that are directly involved in the participatory bottom-up review and appraisal exercise;

5. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

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[54] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uzbekistan.

[55] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[56] Ibid., annex II.

[57] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 6* (E/2004/26), chap. I, sect. E.

[58] Ibid., *2006, Supplement No. 6* (E/2006/26), chap. I, sect. C.

[59] A/62/131 and Corr.1.

6. *Encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

7. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

8. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal exercise, and invites Member States that have not done so to consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

9. *Stresses* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and in this connection encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

10. *Calls upon* Governments to ensure, as appropriate, conditions that enable families and communities to provide care and protection to persons as they age and to evaluate improvement in the health status of older persons, including on a gender-specific basis, and to reduce disability and mortality;

11. *Reiterates* that ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[60] should take into account the situation of older persons;

12. *Recommends* to the Commission for Social Development to include in the deliberations of its forty-sixth session in 2008 the outcomes of the first cycle of the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action, including identifying progress made and obstacles encountered during the first five years of the implementation process;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-seventh session a report on the analysis of the conclusions of the first review and appraisal exercise, including a strategic implementation framework based on an analysis of national activities since 2002, in order to provide identification of policy priorities for the future and the identification of measures for international cooperation to support national implementation activities.

RESOLUTION 62/131

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/432, para. 47)[61]

62/131. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[62] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[63] as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[64] and the development goals contained therein, as well as the commitments made at major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, including the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit,[65]

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[60] See resolution 55/2.

[61] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[62] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[63] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[64] See resolution 55/2.

[65] See resolution 60/1.

Recalling also its resolution 60/209 of 22 December 2005 on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006),

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Noting with appreciation the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council, on "Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development",[66]

Noting that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, is an important instrument to achieve the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

Recognizing that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of economic and social development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[67]

2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[62] in particular to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are mutually reinforcing and that the Copenhagen commitments are crucial to a coherent people-centred approach to development;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

5. *Recognizes* that the broad concept of social development affirmed by the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly has been weakened in national and international policymaking and that, while poverty eradication is a central part of development policy and discourse, further attention should be given to the other commitments agreed to at the Summit, in particular those concerning employment and social integration, which have also suffered from a general disconnect between economic and social policymaking;

6. *Acknowledges* that the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), launched after the World Summit for Social Development, has provided the long-term vision for sustained and concerted efforts at the national and international levels to eradicate poverty, and recognizes that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the Decade has fallen short of expectations;

7. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit, as well as the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,[68] have reinforced the priority and urgency of poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda;

8. *Also emphasizes* that poverty eradication policies should attack poverty by addressing its root and structural causes and manifestations, and that equity and the reduction of inequalities need to be incorporated in those policies;

9. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

10. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

11. *Reaffirms* the commitment to the empowerment of women and gender equality, as well as to the mainstreaming of

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[66] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/61/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 50.

[67] A/62/122.

[68] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that these are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

12. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to employment strategies and macroeconomic policies that actively promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, in order to deliver social justice combined with economic efficiency, with full respect for fundamental principles and rights at work under conditions of equity, equality, security and dignity, and further reaffirms that employment creation should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the social impact and dimension of globalization;

13. *Further reaffirms* that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development and that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities, and also reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

14. *Stresses* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of people living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets;

15. *Reaffirms* that violence, in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, especially against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, is a growing threat to the security of individuals, families and communities everywhere; total social breakdown is an all too real contemporary experience; organized crime, illegal drugs, the illicit arms trade, trafficking in women and children, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, terrorism, all forms of extremist violence, xenophobia, and politically motivated killing and even genocide present fundamental threats to societies and the global social order; they also present compelling and urgent reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity;

16. *Recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore a priority objective of international cooperation;

17. *Stresses* that policies and programmes designed to achieve poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to foster social integration, including by providing marginalized socio-economic sectors and groups with equal access to opportunities and social protection;

18. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of enforcing labour law effectively with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

19. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed by globalization and market-driven reforms to social development in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

20. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to promote the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social security, and also notes the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;[69]

21. *Recognizes* the need to formulate social development policies in an integral, articulated and participative manner, recognizing poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon, calls for interlinked public policies on this matter, and underlines the need for public policies to be included in a comprehensive development and well-being strategy;

22. *Acknowledges* the important role that the public sector can play as an employer and in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all;

23. *Also acknowledges* the vital role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work;

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[69] Resolution 61/295, annex.

24. *Recognizes* that the majority of poor people live and work in rural areas, that priority should be given to agricultural and non-farm sectors and that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization and to maximize its benefits for poor people living and working in rural areas;

25. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of "Meeting the special needs of Africa" at the 2005 World Summit,[70] underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[71]

26. *Also reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

27. *Further reaffirms*, in this context, that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

28. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

29. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

30. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so in accordance with their commitments, to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

31. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives on a voluntary basis taken by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further drug access at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives, such as the International Finance Facility for Immunisation, and notes the New York Declaration of 20 September 2004, which launched the Action against Hunger and Poverty initiative and called for further attention to raise funds urgently needed to help meet the Millennium Development Goals and to complement and ensure long-term stability and predictability to foreign aid;

32. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, and also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals;

33. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, and emphasizes the need to take concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption;

34. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development,[72] to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

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[70] See resolution 60/1, para. 68.

[71] A/57/304, annex.

[72] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 6* (E/2005/26), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234.

35. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to emphasize in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned;

36. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.

RESOLUTION 62/132

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/433 (Part II), para. 43)[73]

62/132. Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers and those adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[74]

Reaffirming the provisions concerning women migrant workers contained in the outcome documents of the World Conference on Human Rights,[75] the International Conference on Population and Development,[76] the Fourth World Conference on Women[77] and the World Summit for Social Development[78] and their five-year reviews,

Noting with appreciation the various activities initiated by entities of the United Nations system, such as the Regional Programme on Empowering Women Migrant Workers in Asia of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the high-level panel discussion on the gender dimensions of international migration held by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session, and the discussions held by the Commission at its fifty-first session, during which it took note, inter alia, of the particular situation of girl migrants, and noting the contribution of the International Labour Organization through the development of a Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration, as well as other activities through which the plight of women migrant workers continues to be assessed and alleviated,

Recalling the discussions during the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held on 14 and 15 September 2006, which recognized, inter alia, the need for special protection for migrant women,

Recognizing the increasing participation of women in international migration, driven in large part by socio-economic factors, and that this feminization of migration requires greater gender sensitivity in all policies and efforts related to the subject of international migration,

Stressing the shared responsibility of all stakeholders, in particular countries of origin, transit and destination, relevant regional and international organizations, the private sector and civil society, in promoting an environment that prevents and addresses violence against women migrant workers,

Acknowledging the contribution that women migrant workers make to development through the economic benefits that accrue to both the country of origin and the country of destination,

Recognizing the particular vulnerability of women and their children at all stages of the migration process, extending from the moment of deciding to migrate, and including transit, engagement in formal and informal employment, and integration into the host society, as well as during their return to their countries of origin,

Expressing deep concern at the continuing reports of grave abuses and violence committed against migrant women and girls, including gender-based violence, in particular sexual violence, trafficking, domestic and family violence, racist and xenophobic acts, abusive labour practices and exploitative conditions of work,

Recognizing that the intersection of, inter alia, gender, age, class and ethnic discrimination and stereotypes can compound the discrimination faced by women migrant workers,

Reaffirming the commitment to protect and promote the human rights of all women, including, without discrimination, indigenous women who migrate for work, and in this regard noting the attention paid in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[79] to the elimination of all forms of violence and discrimination against indigenous women, as appropriate,

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[73] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Uganda, United States of America and Uruguay.

[74] See resolution 48/104.

[75] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[76] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[77] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[78] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Noting with concern that many migrant women who are employed in the informal economy and in less skilled work are especially vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, and underlining in this regard the obligation of States to protect the human rights of migrants so as to prevent abuse and exploitation,

Emphasizing the need for objective, comprehensive and broad-based information, including sex- and age-disaggregated data and statistics, and gender-sensitive indicators for research and analysis, and a wide exchange of experience and lessons learned by individual Member States and civil society in the formulation of policies and concrete strategies to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers,

Realizing that the movement of a significant number of women migrant workers may be facilitated and made possible by means of fraudulent or irregular documentation and sham marriages with the object of migration, that this may be facilitated through, among other things, the Internet, and that those women migrant workers are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation,

Recognizing the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels in protecting and promoting the human rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

Recognizing also the importance of exploring the link between migration and trafficking in order to further efforts towards protecting women migrant workers from violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse,

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some countries of destination to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing in their areas of jurisdiction, such as the establishment of protection mechanisms for migrant workers, facilitating their access to mechanisms for reporting complaints, or providing assistance during legal proceedings,

Underlining the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and the relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers and in protecting and promoting their human rights and welfare,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[80]

2. *Encourages* Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to relevant International Labour Organization conventions and to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[81] the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[82] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[83] as well as all human rights treaties that contribute to the protection of the rights of women migrant workers;

3. *Takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of migrants[84] and the Special Rapporteur of the Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[85] with regard to violence against women migrant workers, and encourages all special rapporteurs whose mandates relate to the subject of violence against women migrant workers to address the issue of violence against women migrant workers and their human rights, in particular the problems of gender-based violence and discrimination, as well as trafficking in women;

4. *Notes* the findings contained in the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, 2004: Women and International Migration,[86] including its recommendations for concrete actions aimed at helping to empower migrant women, including women migrant workers, and reducing their vulnerability to abuse;

5. *Requests* all Governments to continue to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteurs mentioned in paragraph 3 above in the performance of their tasks and mandated duties, including by making available to them requested information on violence against women migrant workers and by reacting promptly to their urgent appeals, and encourages Governments to give serious consideration to inviting them to visit their countries;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments to incorporate a human rights and gender perspective in legislation and policies on international migration and on labour and employment, inter alia, for the prevention and protection of migrant women from violence and discrimination, exploitation and abuse, and to take effective measures to ensure that these do not reinforce discrimination and bias against women;

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[79] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[80] A/62/177.

[81] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[82] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[83] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[84] A/HRC/4/24 and Add.1–3.

[85] A/HRC/4/34 and Add.1–4.

[86] A/59/287 and Add.1; see also United Nations publication, Sales No. E.04.IV.4.

7. *Calls upon* Governments to adopt or strengthen measures to protect the human rights of women migrant workers, regardless of their immigration status, including in policies that regulate the recruitment and deployment of women migrant workers, and to consider expanding dialogue among States on devising innovative methods to promote legal channels of migration, inter alia, in order to deter illegal migration;

8. *Urges* Governments to enhance bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation to address violence against women migrant workers, fully respecting international law, including international human rights law, as well as to strengthen efforts in reducing the vulnerability of women migrant workers, including by fostering sustainable development alternatives to migration in countries of origin;

9. *Also urges* Governments to adopt or strengthen measures to promote and protect the human rights of migrant girls, including unaccompanied girls, regardless of their immigration status, to prevent their labour and economic exploitation, discrimination, sexual harassment, violence and sexual abuse in the workplace, including domestic work;

10. *Further urges* Governments, in cooperation with international organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, to strengthen the focus on and funding support for the prevention of violence against women migrant workers, in particular by promoting the access of women to meaningful and gender-sensitive information and education on, inter alia, the costs and benefits of migration, rights and benefits to which they are entitled in the countries of origin and employment, overall conditions in countries of employment and procedures for legal migration, as well as to ensure that laws and policies governing recruiters, employers and intermediaries promote adherence to and respect for the human rights of migrant workers, particularly women;

11. *Calls upon* Governments, in cooperation with international organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders, to provide women migrant workers who are victims of violence with the full range of immediate assistance and protection, such as access to counselling, legal and consular assistance and temporary shelter, as well as mechanisms to allow the views and concerns of victims to be presented and considered at appropriate stages of proceedings, including other measures that will allow victims to be present during the judicial process, to the extent possible, as well as to establish reintegration and rehabilitation schemes for returning women migrant workers;

12. *Also calls upon* Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to put in place penal and criminal sanctions to punish perpetrators and intermediaries of violence against women migrant workers, and redress and justice mechanisms that victims can access effectively, as well as to ensure that migrant women victims of violence do not suffer from re-victimization, including by authorities;

13. *Urges* all States to adopt effective measures to put an end to the arbitrary arrest and detention of women migrant workers and to take action to prevent and punish any form of illegal deprivation of the liberty of women migrant workers by individuals or groups;

14. *Encourages* Governments to formulate and implement training programmes for their law enforcers, immigration officers and border officials, prosecutors and service providers with a view to sensitizing those public-sector workers to the issue of violence against women migrant workers and imparting to them the necessary skills and attitude to ensure the delivery of proper, professional and gender-sensitive interventions;

15. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system and other concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate towards a better understanding of the issues concerning women and international migration, and to improve the collection, dissemination and analysis of sex- and age-disaggregated data and information in order to assist in the formulation of migration and labour policies that are, inter alia, gender-sensitive and that protect human rights, as well as to aid in policy assessment;

16. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin, transit and destination, to avail themselves of the expertise of the United Nations, including the Statistics Division of the Secretariat, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, to develop appropriate national data-collection and analysis methodologies that will generate comparable data and tracking and reporting systems on violence against women migrant workers;

17. *Encourages* the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to continue its work on a general recommendation on the situation of women migrant workers;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the problem of violence against women migrant workers and on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account updated information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the reports of the Special Rapporteurs mentioned in paragraph 3 above, and other relevant sources, such as the International Organization for Migration, including non-governmental organizations.

RESOLUTION 62/133

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/433 (Part II), para. 43)[87]

62/133. Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/143 of 19 December 2006,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reaffirming also that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[88] and other international human rights instruments, and that its elimination is an integral part of efforts towards the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

Reaffirming also the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[89] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[90] the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[91] and the declaration adopted at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,[92]

Reaffirming further the international commitments in the field of social development and to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, as well as those made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[93] and at the 2005 World Summit, and noting the attention paid to the elimination of all forms of violence against indigenous women in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007,

Recognizing that women's poverty and lack of empowerment, as well as their marginalization resulting from their exclusion from social policies and from the benefits of sustainable development, can place them at increased risk of violence, and that violence against women impedes the social and economic development of communities and States, as well as the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Deeply concerned about the pervasiveness of violence against women and girls in all its different forms and manifestations worldwide, and reiterating the need to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls throughout the world,

Stressing that States have the obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including women and girls, and must exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls, to eliminate impunity and to provide protection to the victims, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Expressing its appreciation for the high number of activities undertaken by the United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to eliminate all forms of violence against women,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, pursuant to resolution 61/143;[94]

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the Secretary-General to spearhead a multi-year system-wide campaign to eliminate violence against women and girls through 2015, focusing on global advocacy, United Nations leadership and strengthened efforts and partnerships at the national and regional levels;

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[87] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[88] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[89] See resolution 48/104.

[90] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[91] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[92] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[93] See resolution 55/2.

[94] A/62/201.

3. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system and, as appropriate, regional and subregional organizations, to support national efforts to promote the empowerment of women and gender equality in order to enhance national efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls, including, upon request, in the development and implementation of national action plans on the elimination of violence against women and girls, through, inter alia, and taking into account national priorities, official development assistance and other appropriate assistance, such as facilitating the sharing of guidelines, methodologies and best practices;

4. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to intensify their efforts at all levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to better coordinate their work, inter alia, through the Task Force on Violence against Women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality;

5. *Calls upon* the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality to intensify its consideration of ways and means to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women as a system-wide funding mechanism for preventing and redressing all forms of violence against women and girls;

6. *Stresses* that within the United Nations system adequate resources should be assigned to those bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes responsible for the promotion of gender equality and women's rights and to efforts throughout the United Nations system to eliminate violence against women and girls, supports the commitment of the Task Force on Violence against Women to undertake a resource flow analysis to assess the resources available for this work and elaborate recommendations for their most effective and efficient use, and calls upon the United Nations system to respond swiftly to those recommendations once issued;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to develop and propose a set of possible indicators on violence against women, building on the work undertaken by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, in order to assist States in assessing the scope, prevalence and incidence of violence against women, with a view to allowing its consideration by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-second session and by the Statistical Commission at the earliest;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-second session and thereafter to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session with information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on recent follow-up activities to implement resolution 61/143 and the present resolution, including on the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women, and urges United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to contribute promptly to the report.

RESOLUTION 62/134

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/433 (Part II), para. 43)[95]

62/134. Eliminating rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming also that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[96] and other international human rights instruments and that its elimination is an integral part of efforts towards the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

Reaffirming further the obligations of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[97] the Geneva Conventions of 1949[98] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977[99] and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[100]

Reaffirming the goals, objectives and commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[101] and those contained in the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[102] with respect to sexual violence and to women in armed conflict,

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[95] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Vanuatu.

[96] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[97] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[98] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[99] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[100] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[101] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Recalling all previous General Assembly resolutions on violence against women and violence against children, including resolution 61/143 of 19 December 2006 on intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, and its other relevant resolutions, as well as Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security, 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 on children affected by armed conflict and 1674 (2006) of 28 April 2006 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on women and on the girl child, Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/41 of 19 April 2005 on the elimination of violence against women[103] and resolution 2001/20 of 16 August 2001 of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices,[104]

Recalling also the inclusion of rape and other forms of gender-related crimes and crimes of sexual violence in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[105]

Recalling further the recognition by the ad hoc international criminal tribunals that rape can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide,

Welcoming the United Nations inter-agency initiative "Stop Rape Now: United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict",

Recognizing that violence against women is an offence against the dignity and integrity of the victim, which often inflicts serious physical and psychological harm, and that all forms of violence against women seriously violate and impair or nullify the enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and constitute a major impediment to the ability of women to make use of their capabilities,

Recognizing also that violence against women is rooted in historically unequal power relations between men and women,

Recognizing further that violence against women impedes the social and economic development of communities and States, as well as the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing concern that civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and increasingly are targeted by combatants and armed elements, and recognizing the consequent impact this has on durable peace and reconciliation,

Recognizing that States bear primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory as provided for by relevant international law,

Stressing that States have the obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls, and must exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls, and to provide protection to the victims, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the victims,

Strongly condemning all acts of violence against women and girls, whether these acts are perpetrated by the State, by private persons or by non-State actors, calling for the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence in the family, within the general community, and where perpetrated or condoned by the State, and stressing the need to treat all forms of violence against women and girls as a criminal offence, punishable by law,

Stressing that rape or other forms of sexual violence must not be used or condoned in any circumstance by any individual, State or non-State actor,

Recognizing that rape or any other form of sexual violence is unlawful in all circumstances and in all places, regardless of the sex or age of the victim, including in detention and in jails, whether or not committed by State or non-State actors in the course of achieving political or military objectives, whether or not in the course of an international or non-international armed conflict, or in areas under foreign occupation,

Deeply concerned at rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, which are typically committed against women and girls, and which often target victims associated with communities, ethnic groups or other groups regarded as antagonistic to or insufficiently supportive of the group or entity whose forces commit the crime, and are frequently calculated to humiliate, dominate, instil fear in, disperse and/or forcibly relocate members of such groups, including, but not limited to, the victims and their families,

Affirming the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of rape or other forms of sexual violence committed on their territory do not operate with impunity and that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice as provided for by national law and obligations under international law, and also affirming the need to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims,

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[102] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[103] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[104] See E/CN.4/2002/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2001/40, chap. II, sect. A.

[105] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

Also affirming the need to provide all necessary assistance to victims, including children born as a result of rape,

Determined to eliminate rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations,

1. *Urges* States:

(*a*) To take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, in particular rape and other forms of sexual violence;

(*b*) To end impunity by ensuring that all rape victims, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice and by investigating, prosecuting and punishing any person responsible for rape and other forms of sexual violence, whether or not committed by State or non-State actors in the course of achieving political or military objectives, wherever they occur, whether or not in the course of an international or non-international armed conflict, including in detention and in jails, and regardless of the sex or age of the victim;

(*c*) To provide victims with access to appropriate health care, including sexual and reproductive health care, psychological care and trauma counselling, as well as to rehabilitation, social reintegration and, as appropriate, effective and sufficient compensation, in accordance with relevant international and national law;

(*d*) To develop and implement at all levels, as required, a comprehensive and integrated strategy of prevention and prosecution of rape, and monitor the implementation of such a strategy, which should include the training of, inter alia, all relevant government and military personnel, in particular military commanders, law enforcement officials, judicial system personnel, health workers, teachers and social workers, as well as community leaders and the news media, in all appropriate aspects of the prevention and prosecution of rape and other forms of sexual violence and of protection and support for victims of such violence;

(*e*) To promote human rights education, including on all aspects of rape and other forms of sexual violence, ensuring factual accounts of such violence, in an effort to encourage better understanding among all peoples, with a view to the prevention and elimination of rape and other forms of sexual violence;

(*f*) To increase significantly their voluntary financial support for activities related to preventing and eliminating all forms of violence against women, the empowerment of women and gender equality carried out by the specialized agencies and the United Nations funds and programmes, including the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women;

(*g*) To consider ratifying or acceding to all human rights treaties, including, as a matter of priority, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[96] and the Optional Protocol thereto;[106]

2. *Calls upon* States and the United Nations system:

(*a*) To support all efforts to address rape, including through the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of data, to facilitate such efforts and, in particular, to work towards overcoming the difficulties and challenges of capacity-building and collecting information on the practice;

(*b*) To integrate to the maximum extent possible the needs of all victims of sexual violence into United Nations humanitarian assistance programmes;

(*c*) To assign adequate resources within the United Nations system to those bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes responsible for the promotion of gender equality and women's rights and to efforts throughout the United Nations system to eliminate violence against women and girls and design programmes to provide assistance to victims, including children born as a result;

3. *Urges* States, in cooperation with the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors, as appropriate:

(*a*) To conduct public education and awareness campaigns at the national and grass-roots levels in order to raise awareness about the causes and consequences of rape and other forms of sexual violence;

(*b*) To establish reception centres and shelters for victims, take other appropriate measures to promote and protect women's rights, and provide protection, safe shelter, medical assistance, including sexual and reproductive health care, all necessary medications, including antiretroviral drugs and antibiotics, counselling for victims and their families, comprehensive information and education, legal aid, rehabilitation, and reintegration of victims and their offspring into society, in cooperation with State efforts towards protecting and supporting victims, in particular appropriate compensation that is effective and sufficient, maintaining due confidentiality and privacy of the victims and their families;

(*c*) To support programmes to eliminate rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, and design programmes to provide assistance to all victims of rape;

(*d*) To address the long-term consequences faced by victims of rape and other forms of sexual violence, including legal discrimination and social stigmatization, as well as the effects on children born as a result of rape;

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[106] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

4. *Invites* non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors:

(*a*) To advocate at the local, national, regional and international levels against rape and other forms of sexual violence, inter alia, by building and strengthening networks among those who may be in a position to provide information on their occurrence, and to call attention to their adverse consequences;

(*b*) To increase coordination and cooperation in addressing this problem and continue to present their observations and conclusions to Governments;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution on rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including when they target victims associated with communities, ethnic groups or other groups regarded as antagonistic to or insufficiently supportive of the group or entity whose forces commit the crime, and are calculated to humiliate, instil fear in, disperse and/or forcibly relocate members of such groups, including, but not limited to, the victims and their families.

RESOLUTION 62/135

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/433 (Part II), para. 43)[107]

62/135. United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, by which it established the United Nations Development Fund for Women as a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme, as well as its resolution 60/137 of 16 December 2005,

Reaffirming the Beijing Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[108] which recognizes the special role of the Fund in the promotion of the economic and political empowerment of women, and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[109]

Emphasizing that implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action is essential to achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming the commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women made at the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions,

Reaffirming also the primary and essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in promoting the advancement of women and gender equality,

Reaffirming further all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security,

Recognizing the importance of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[110] and noting that the number of States parties to the Convention is among the highest for human rights conventions,

Welcoming the contributions that the Fund has made in supporting initiatives of Member States, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations to formulate and implement activities that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Recalling its resolution 59/250 of 22 December 2004 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and stressing the need for all organizations of the United Nations development system to implement their global, regional and country-level activities in accordance with their mandates,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997[111] and subsequent Council resolutions on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[112]

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[107] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia.

[108] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[109] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[110] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[111] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 4.

Noting the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme directions, as stipulated in the annex to resolution 39/125,

Noting also the ongoing intergovernmental consultation process on the recommendations of the High-level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence,[113] where issues of gender equality and women's empowerment are addressed,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of decision 2007/35, adopted on 14 September 2007 by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund at its second regular session of 2007,[114] in which it took note of the strategic plan, 2008–2011, of the United Nations Development Fund for Women,[115] endorsed its strategic priorities and results and authorized its implementation;

2. *Welcomes* the note by the Secretary-General on the activities of the Fund, containing the results-focused report of progress in implementing its multi-year funding framework, 2004–2007;[116]

3. *Commends* the focus by the Fund, in accordance with its mandate as set out in the annex to resolution 39/125, on strategic programmes in its three key thematic areas of work, in line with its strategic plan, 2008–2011, namely, enhancing women's economic security and rights, ending violence against women and reducing the prevalence of HIV/AIDS among women and achieving gender equality in democratic governance, as well as eradicating feminized poverty and supporting innovative programming in the context of the Beijing Platform for Action[108] and commitments made at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly[109] and at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women;[117]

4. *Calls upon* Member States, intergovernmental bodies and the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to enhance the coordination and ensure adequate status and resourcing of the gender entities of the United Nations to improve the support of the United Nations system for gender equality and the empowerment of women at the global, regional and national levels;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the coordination efforts between the Fund and other funds, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and calls upon those entities to strengthen their collaborative efforts;

6. *Urges* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality and the empowerment of women in all their programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes, to articulate specific global, regional and country-level benchmarks, goals and targets in this field in accordance with national development strategies, and to ensure monitoring and evaluation of and reporting on the activities of the United Nations system in this regard, while also encouraging the participation of women in these processes, where appropriate;

7. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to contribute to the harmonization and coordination processes of United Nations reform through, inter alia, strengthened partnerships with other funds, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system and through the promotion of development, including technical cooperation, women's human rights and a gender-equality perspective in the policies, guidelines and tools developed by the United Nations Development Group;

8. *Encourages* the participation of the Fund in relevant high-level inter-agency coordination mechanisms, and calls upon the United Nations system to ensure participatory cooperation of units that deal with gender issues within organizations, agencies, funds and programmes across the system in order to achieve better coordination among United Nations bodies, taking into account their respective mandates, in strengthening gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women;

9. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Fund and other United Nations funds and programmes to strengthen the gender-equality and women's empowerment perspective in formulation, implementation and evaluation processes related to national development plans and programmes aimed at eradicating poverty, including poverty reduction strategies, the Millennium Development Goals and the United Nations development assistance frameworks where they exist, and urges the Fund to support these processes;

10. *Encourages* the Fund to support strengthened and coordinated action on gender equality at the country level, including by designating Fund representatives, where the Fund already has a presence, with the authority to work with the concerned Governments to identify, formulate and execute programmes and projects, within the mandate of the Fund and in line with national priorities, and to enhance cooperation with,

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[112] Economic and Social Council resolutions 2001/41, 2002/23, 2003/49, 2004/4, 2005/31, 2006/36 and 2007/33.

[113] See A/61/583.

[114] See DP/2008/2.

[115] DP/2007/45.

[116] A/62/188.

[117] See E/CN.6/2005/2 and Corr.1.

and active support for, resident coordinators for operational activities of the United Nations, on the understanding that this will not result in increased administrative expenditure for the Fund;

11. *Recognizes* the technical expertise of the Fund and other gender specialist resources of the United Nations system, and calls upon the United Nations development system to utilize this technical expertise, on the basis of their mandates, to support enhanced programming and policies on gender equality and the empowerment of women at all levels, while undertaking efforts to implement gender mainstreaming internally;

12. *Encourages* Member States and United Nations organizations to further explore with the Fund possible innovative representational arrangements, including through the use of seconded staff, project offices and other means;

13. *Notes* the activities undertaken by the Fund, in follow-up to resolution 60/137, to address the impact of armed conflict on women, including sexual and all other forms of violence against women and girls, to strengthen gender justice and to support the promotion of gender equality and full and effective participation of women in peace processes, peacebuilding, post-conflict recovery and reconstruction, and urges the Fund to increase its efforts and enhance its support to a coordinated approach of the United Nations system, including cooperation, as appropriate, with Member States, relevant United Nations entities, regional organizations and other United Nations partners in these fields;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women, established by General Assembly resolution 50/166 of 22 December 1995, as an inter-agency mechanism to respond to the deep concern regarding the persistence of violence and crimes against women in all parts of the world expressed by the Assembly, which has urged the relevant United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and specialized agencies to enhance the coordination of and intensify support to States in their efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, and encourages all Governments, non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors to consider contributing or increasing contributions to the Trust Fund;

15. *Calls upon* the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality to intensify its consideration of ways and means to enhance the effectiveness of the Trust Fund as a system-wide funding mechanism for preventing and redressing all forms of violence against women and girls;

16. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to support the gender-equality and women's empowerment goals and targets of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session,[118] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS adopted at the High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS of the sixtieth session of the Assembly,[119] by working closely with women who are affected by or infected with HIV/AIDS to develop their capacity to influence programmes and policies, building on its partnerships within the United Nations system, in particular with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS);

17. *Welcomes* the strengthened partnership with the United Nations Development Programme to facilitate the participation of the Fund in the Joint Programme in order to avail its co-sponsors of the expertise of the Fund with respect to the gender dimensions of HIV/AIDS;

18. *Encourages* the Fund to respond to country requests for the development or strengthening of accountability mechanisms for gender equality, including by supporting United Nations country team coordination, through providing its specific expertise and capacities in these fields, in building the capacity of Governments to undertake gender-responsive budget analysis and to use sex-disaggregated data as a basis for gender-responsive public policy formulation;

19. *Welcomes* the role of the Fund in promoting the strategic importance of the empowerment of women in all of the regions in which it operates, and notes with appreciation the enhanced programme activities of the Fund in the African region;

20. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to assist Governments in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[110] in order to advance gender equality at all levels, including by reinforcing cooperation between Governments and civil society, especially women's organizations, and by supporting efforts to follow up, as appropriate, the concluding comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

21. *Also encourages* the Fund, within its mandate, to continue to assist Governments in implementing the rights of indigenous women, in accordance with international human rights obligations and taking into account, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;[120]

22. *Calls for* further clarification of the lines of responsibility, especially between the United Nations Development Programme and the Fund, to ensure that the resident coordinator system and the United Nations country teams provide coherent support to countries on gender equality, and between the Fund and other member organizations of the United Nations Development Group, to ensure greater

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[118] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[119] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[120] Resolution 61/295, annex.

effectiveness in United Nations operational activities related to gender equality;

23. *Recognizes with appreciation* the increases in core and non-core contributions to the Fund made by Member States, private organizations and foundations, whose increased contributions demonstrate their commitment to the issues on which the Fund is working;

24. *Invites*, accordingly, Member States, non-governmental organizations and members of private organizations and foundations that have contributed to the Fund to continue to contribute and to consider increasing their financial contributions, and urges others that have not yet done so to consider contributing to the Fund to enable it to reach the targets for core resources in its strategic plan, which are essential for ensuring the predictability and effective planning of its activities.

RESOLUTION 62/136

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/433 (Part II), para. 43)[121]

62/136. Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/129 of 19 December 2001, 58/146 of 22 December 2003 and 60/138 of 16 December 2005,

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[122] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women[123] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[124] including the review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcomes, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[125]

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[126] in which Member States resolved, inter alia, to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable, and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[127] in which they also resolved to promote gender equality and eliminate pervasive gender discrimination by taking all the necessary resolute action,

Welcoming the declaration adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session in the context of the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[128]

Noting the attention paid to the improvement of the situation of indigenous women in rural areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[129]

Recognizing the work of relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in promoting education for all, giving particular attention to girls and women in rural areas,

Welcoming the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[130] as well as the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[131] in which Governments were called upon to mainstream the gender perspective into development at all levels and in all sectors,

Welcoming also the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2003 of the Economic and Social Council, adopted on 2 July 2003,[132] which stressed the need for rural development to become an integral part of national and international development policies and of activities and programmes of the United Nations system and called for an enhanced role for rural women at all levels of rural development, including decision-making,

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[121] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Uganda, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[122] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15–26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[123] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[124] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[125] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[126] See resolution 55/2.

[127] See resolution 60/1.

[128] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[129] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[130] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[131] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[132] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/58/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 35.

Recalling the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in 2003 and Tunis in 2005, as well as the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the World Summit in 2005,[133] which reaffirmed the commitment to building capacity in information and communications technology for all and confidence in the use of information and communications technology by all, including women, indigenous peoples and remote and rural communities,

Recognizing the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty,

Reiterating that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today, and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, while recognizing that rural areas of developing countries continue to be home to the vast majority of the world's poor people,

Recognizing the contributions of older rural women to the family and the community, especially in cases where they are left behind by migrating adults or as a result of other socio-economic factors to assume childcare, household and agricultural responsibility,

Reiterating the call for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty, including for rural women, and in this regard applauding the resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for rural women, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty eradication strategies,

Recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[134]

2. *Urges* Member States, in collaboration with the organizations of the United Nations and civil society, as appropriate, to continue their efforts to implement the outcome of and to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits, including their reviews, and to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women, including indigenous women, in their national, regional and global development strategies by, inter alia:

(*a*) Creating an enabling environment for improving the situation of rural women and ensuring systematic attention to their needs, priorities and contributions, including through enhanced cooperation and a gender perspective, and their full participation in the development, implementation and follow-up of macroeconomic policies, including development policies and programmes and poverty eradication strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers where they exist, based on internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

(*b*) Pursuing the political and socio-economic empowerment of rural women and supporting their full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels, including through affirmative action, where appropriate, and support for women's organizations, labour unions or other associations and civil society groups promoting rural women's rights;

(*c*) Promoting consultation with and the participation of rural women, including indigenous women and women with disabilities, through their organizations and networks, in the design, development and implementation of gender equality and rural development programmes and strategies;

(*d*) Ensuring that the perspectives of rural women are taken into account and that they participate in the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of policies and activities related to emergencies, including natural disasters, humanitarian assistance, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction, and taking appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against rural women in this regard;

(*e*) Integrating a gender perspective into the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of development policies and programmes, including budget policies, paying increased attention to the needs of rural women so as to ensure that they benefit from policies and programmes adopted in all spheres and that the disproportionate number of rural women living in poverty is reduced;

(*f*) Investing in and strengthening efforts to meet the basic needs of rural women through improved availability, access to and use of critical rural infrastructure, such as energy and transport, capacity-building and human resources development measures and the provision of a safe and reliable water supply and sanitation, nutritional programmes, affordable housing programmes, education and literacy programmes and health and social support measures, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS treatment, care and support;

(g) Addressing the specific health needs of rural women and taking concrete measures to enhance and provide access to the highest attainable standards of health for women in rural areas, including in such areas of sexual and reproductive health as pre- and post-natal health care, emergency obstetric care, family planning information and increasing knowledge, awareness and support for the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS;

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[133] See A/60/687, chap. I, sect. B.

[134] A/62/202.

(*h*) Designing and implementing national policies that promote and protect the enjoyment by rural women and girls of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and creating an environment that does not tolerate violations of their rights, including domestic violence, sexual violence and all other forms of gender-based violence;

(*i*) Ensuring that the rights of older women in rural areas are taken into account with regard to their equal access to basic social services, appropriate social protection/social security measures, equal access to and control of economic resources, and empowerment of older women through access to financial and infrastructure services, with special focus on support to older women, including indigenous women, who often have access to few resources and are more vulnerable;

(*j*) Developing specific assistance programmes and advisory services to promote economic skills of rural women in banking, modern trading and financial procedures and providing microcredit and other financial and business services to a greater number of women in rural areas, in particular female-headed households, for their economic empowerment;

(*k*) Mobilizing resources, including at the national level and through official development assistance, for increasing women's access to existing savings and credit schemes, as well as targeted programmes that provide women with capital, knowledge and tools that enhance their economic capacities;

(*l*) Integrating increased employment opportunities for rural women into all international and national development strategies and poverty eradication strategies, including by, inter alia, expanding non-agricultural employment opportunities, improving working conditions and increasing access to productive resources;

(*m*) Taking steps towards ensuring that women's unpaid work and contributions to on-farm and off-farm production, including income generated in the informal sector, are recognized and supporting remunerative non-agricultural employment of rural women, improving working conditions and increasing access to productive resources;

(*n*) Promoting programmes to enable rural women and men to reconcile their work and family responsibilities and to encourage men to share equally with women household and childcare responsibilities;

(*o*) Considering the adoption, where appropriate, of national legislation to protect the knowledge, innovations and practices of women in indigenous and local communities relating to traditional medicines, biodiversity and indigenous technologies;

(*p*) Addressing the lack of timely, reliable and sex-disaggregated data, including by intensifying efforts to include women's unpaid work in official statistics, and developing a systematic and comparative research base on rural women that will inform policy and programme decisions;

(*q*) Designing and revising laws to ensure that, where private ownership of land and property exists, rural women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, including through the right to inheritance, and undertaking administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

(*r*) Supporting a gender-sensitive education system that considers the specific needs of rural women in order to eliminate gender stereotypes and discriminatory tendencies affecting them;

3. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to pay due attention to the situation of rural women in the consideration of its priority themes;

4. *Requests* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular those dealing with issues of development, to address and support the empowerment of rural women and their specific needs in their programmes and strategies;

5. *Stresses* the need to identify the best practices for ensuring that rural women have access to and full participation in the area of information and communications technology, to address the priorities and needs of rural women and girls as active users of information and to ensure their participation in developing and implementing global, regional and national information and communications technology strategies;

6. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and relevant organizations of its system to ensure that the needs of rural women are mainstreamed into the integrated process of follow-up to the major conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in particular the Millennium Summit, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, which is to be held in Doha in the second half of 2008, the 2005 review and appraisal of the progress achieved in implementing all the commitments made in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[123] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly[124] and the 2005 World Summit;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to take into consideration the concluding comments and recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women concerning their reports to the Committee when formulating policies and designing programmes focused on the improvement of the situation of rural women, including those to

be developed and implemented in cooperation with relevant international organizations;

8. *Decides* to declare that 15 October of each year shall be officially proclaimed and observed as the International Day of Rural Women;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/137

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/433 (Part II), para. 43)[135]

62/137. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 61/145 of 19 December 2006,

Deeply convinced that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[136] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[137] are important contributions to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned,

Reaffirming the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[138] the 2005 World Summit[139] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming also that their full, effective and accelerated implementation are integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming progress made towards achieving gender equality, but stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

Recognizing that the responsibility for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session rests primarily at the national level and that strengthened efforts are necessary in this respect, and reiterating that enhanced international cooperation is essential for full, effective and accelerated implementation,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for promoting the empowerment of women and achieving gender equality by transforming structures of inequality, and reaffirming also the commitment to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres, as well as the commitment to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender equality,

Bearing in mind the challenges and obstacles to changing discriminatory attitudes and gender stereotypes, and stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of international standards and norms to address the inequality between men and women,

Expressing serious concern that the urgent goal of 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations system, especially at senior and policymaking levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, remains unmet, and that the representation of women in the United Nations system has remained almost static, with negligible improvement in some parts of the system, and in some cases has even decreased, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system,[140]

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding,

Reaffirming also the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[141] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS adopted at the High-level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, held from 31 May to 2 June 2006,[142] which, inter alia, acknowledged the feminization of the pandemic,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system,[143]

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[135] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[136] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[137] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[138] See resolution 55/2.

[139] See resolution 60/1.

[140] A/61/318.

[141] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[142] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[143] E/2007/64.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[144]

2. *Reaffirms* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,[136] the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[137] and the declaration adopted on the occasion of the ten-year review and appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,[145] and also reaffirms its commitment to their full, effective and accelerated implementation;

3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the fulfilment of the obligations of States parties under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[146] are mutually reinforcing in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, and in this regard welcomes the contributions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to promoting the implementation of the Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and invites States parties to the Convention to include information on measures taken to enhance implementation at the national level in their reports to the Committee under article 18 of the Convention;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

5. *Calls upon* States parties to comply fully with their obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto[147] and to take into consideration the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee, urges States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible, and to regularly review such reservations with a view to withdrawing them so as to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, also urges all Member States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to consider doing so, and calls upon those Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

6. *Encourages* all actors, inter alia, Governments, the United Nations system, other international organizations and civil society, to continue to support the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in fulfilling its central role in the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and, as applicable, to carry out its recommendations, and welcomes in this regard the revised programme and methods of work of the Commission adopted at its fiftieth session,[148] which give particular attention to the sharing of experiences, lessons learned and good practices in overcoming challenges to full implementation at the national and international levels as well as to the evaluation of progress in the implementation of priority themes;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, and the relevant funds and programmes, organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and invites the international financial institutions and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to intensify action to achieve the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, through, inter alia:

(*a*) Sustained political will and commitment at the national, regional and international levels to take further action, inter alia, through the mainstreaming of gender perspectives, including through the development and use of gender equality indicators, as applicable, in all policies and programmes and the promotion of full and equal participation and empowerment of women, and enhanced international cooperation;

(*b*) Promotion and protection of, and respect for, the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls, including through the full implementation by States of their obligations under all human rights instruments, especially the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(*c*) Ensuring full representation and full and equal participation of women in political, social and economic decision-making as an essential condition for gender equality, and the empowerment of women and girls as a critical factor in the eradication of poverty;

(*d*) Involving women actively in environmental decision-making at all levels, integrating gender concerns and perspectives in policies and programmes for sustainable development, and strengthening or establishing mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels to assess the impact of development and environmental policies on women;

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[144] A/62/178.

[145] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[146] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[147] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378

[148] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/9.

(*e*) Providing technical assistance to women, particularly in developing countries, to ensure the continuing promotion of human resources development and the development of environmentally sound technologies and of women's entrepreneurship;

(*f*) Respect for the rule of law, including legislation, and continued efforts to repeal laws and eradicate policies and practices that discriminate against women and girls, and to adopt laws and promote practices that protect their rights;

(*g*) Strengthening the role of national institutional mechanisms for gender equality and the advancement of women, including through financial and other appropriate assistance, to increase their direct impact on women;

(*h*) Undertaking socio-economic policies that promote sustainable development and ensure poverty eradication programmes, especially for women and girls, and strengthening the provision of and ensuring equal access to adequate, affordable and accessible public and social services, including education and training at all levels, as well as to all types of permanent and sustainable social protection/social security systems for women throughout their life cycle, and supporting national efforts in this regard;

(*i*) Taking further steps to ensure that the education system and the media, to the extent consistent with freedom of expression, support the use of non-stereotypic, balanced and diverse images of women presenting them as key actors of the process of development as well as promoting non-discriminatory roles of women and men in their private and public life;

(*j*) Incorporating gender perspectives and human rights in health-sector policies, programmes and research activities, paying attention to women's and girls' specific needs and priorities, ensuring women's right to the highest attainable standards of health and their access to affordable and adequate health-care services, including sexual, reproductive and maternal health care and lifesaving obstetric care, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[149] and recognizing that the lack of economic empowerment and independence has increased women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, involving the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other poverty-related diseases;

(*k*) Eliminating gender inequalities, gender-based abuse and violence; increasing the capacity of women and adolescent girls to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection, principally through the provision of health care and services, including sexual and reproductive health, and the provision of full access to comprehensive information and education; ensuring that women can exercise their right to have control over, and decide freely and responsibly on, matters related to their sexuality in order to increase their ability to protect themselves from HIV infection, including their sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence; and taking all necessary measures to create an enabling environment for the empowerment of women and to strengthen their economic independence, while, in this context, reiterating the importance of the role of men and boys in achieving gender equality;

(*l*) Strengthening national health and social infrastructures to reinforce measures to promote women's access to public health and taking action at the national level to address shortages of human resources for health, by, inter alia, developing, financing and implementing policies, within national development strategies, to improve training and management and effectively govern the recruitment, retention and deployment of health workers, including through international cooperation in this area;

(*m*) Adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources for the developing countries, including the least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, from all available funding mechanisms, including multilateral, bilateral and private sources;

(*n*) Increased partnerships among Governments, civil society and the private sector;

(*o*) Encouraging joint responsibility of men and boys with women and girls in the promotion of gender equality, based on the conviction that this is essential to the achievement of the goals of gender equality, development and peace;

(*p*) Removing structural and legal barriers, as well as eliminating stereotypic attitudes, to gender equality at work, promoting equal pay for equal work, and promoting the recognition of the value of women's unremunerated work, as well as developing and promoting policies that facilitate the reconciliation of employment and family responsibilities;

8. *Reaffirms* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent violence against women and girls, provide protection to the victims and investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, and calls upon Governments to elaborate and implement laws and strategies to eliminate violence against women and girls;

9. *Strongly encourages* Governments to continue to support the role and contribution of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in

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[149] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

10. *Resolves* to intensify the efforts of its Main Committees and subsidiary bodies to fully mainstream a gender perspective in their work, including by paying more attention to issues related to the status of women under their consideration and within their mandates, as well as in all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and in their follow-up processes;

11. *Requests* that reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies systematically address gender perspectives through qualitative gender analysis and, where available, quantitative data, in particular through concrete conclusions and recommendations for further action on gender equality and the advancement of women, in order to facilitate gender-sensitive policy development;

12. *Urges* Governments and all entities of the United Nations system, including United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and all relevant actors of civil society, to ensure the integration of gender perspectives in the implementation of and follow-up to all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and to give attention to gender perspectives in preparation for such events, including the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on children in 2007, the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, in Bali, Indonesia, in 2007, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterey Consensus in Doha in 2008, and the Third High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Accra in 2008;

13. *Reaffirms its call* to include a gender perspective in the consideration of all issues in the agenda and activities of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Human Rights Council;

14. *Encourages* the Economic and Social Council to continue its efforts to ensure that gender mainstreaming is an integral part of its work and that of its subsidiary bodies, through, inter alia, implementation of its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997[150] and its resolution 2004/4 of 7 July 2004;

15. *Welcomes* the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2007 of the Economic and Social Council,[151] which, inter alia, reaffirmed that gender equality and the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all are essential to eradicating poverty and hunger and that all countries should promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and, as called for, inter alia, in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, identify and accelerate actions towards that end;

16. *Requests* all bodies that deal with programme and budgetary matters, including the Committee for Programme and Coordination, to ensure that programmes, plans and budgets visibly mainstream gender perspectives;

17. *Reaffirms* the primary and essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women, in promoting the advancement of women and gender equality;

18. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to continue to encourage its functional commissions to mainstream a gender perspective in their respective follow-up actions to major United Nations conferences and summits and to develop more effective means to ensure the implementation of outcomes on gender equality at the national level;

19. *Underlines* the catalytic role played by the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as the important role played by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, in promoting and monitoring gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

20. *Requests* that entities of the United Nations system systematically incorporate the outcomes of the Commission on the Status of Women into their work within their mandates;

21. *Reaffirms* the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to the full and effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, while noting the seventh anniversary of its adoption and the open debates in the Council on women and peace and security;

22. *Urges* Governments and the United Nations system to take further steps to ensure the integration of a gender perspective and the full and equal participation of women in all efforts to promote peace and security, including in peace negotiations, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and post-conflict situations, as well as to increase their role in decision-making at all levels, including through the development of national action plans and strategies;

23. *Calls upon* all parts of the United Nations system to continue to play an active role in ensuring the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, through, inter alia, the work of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Division for the Advancement of Women and the maintenance of gender

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[150] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 4.

[151] See A/62/3 and Corr.1, chap. III, sect. C, para. 90. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 3.*

specialists in all entities of the United Nations system, as well as by ensuring that all personnel, especially in the field, receive training and appropriate follow-up, including tools, guidance and support, for accelerated gender mainstreaming, and reaffirms the need to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review and redouble his efforts to make progress towards achieving the goal of 50/50 gender balance at all levels in the Secretariat and throughout the United Nations system, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, considering, in particular, women from developing and least developed countries, from countries with economies in transition and from unrepresented or largely underrepresented Member States, and to ensure managerial and departmental accountability with respect to gender balance targets, and strongly encourages Member States to identify and regularly submit more women candidates for appointment to positions in the United Nations system, especially at more senior and policymaking levels;

25. *Encourages* the subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly to incorporate gender-equality perspectives systematically in their discussions and outcomes, including through effective use of the analysis, data and recommendations contained in reports of the Secretary-General, and to follow up on the outcomes;

26. *Requests* that reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly facilitate gender-sensitive policy development by more systematically including qualitative gender analysis, data and recommendations for further action;

27. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to continue its efforts towards achieving the goal of gender balance, including with the active support of gender focal points, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-second session, to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Advancement of women", and to include in his report on human resources management information on the status of women in the United Nations system, including on progress made and obstacles encountered in achieving gender balance, recommendations for accelerating progress, and up-to-date statistics, including the number and percentage of women and their functions and nationalities throughout the United Nations system, and information on the responsibility and accountability of the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat and the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for promoting gender balance;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report annually to the General Assembly under the item entitled "Advancement of women", as well as to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, with an assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming, including information on key achievements, lessons learned and good practices, and recommendations on further measures to enhance implementation.

RESOLUTION 62/138

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/435, para. 32)[152]

62/138. Supporting efforts to end obstetric fistula

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[153] the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[154] and the declaration adopted at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,[155]

Reaffirming also the international commitments in the field of social development and to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and

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[152] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[153] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[154] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[155] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, as well as those made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[156] and at the 2005 World Summit,[157]

Reaffirming further the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[158] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[159] and urging States that have not done so to consider, as a matter of priority, signing, ratifying or acceding to these Conventions and the Optional Protocols thereto,[160]

Stressing the interlinkages between poverty, malnutrition, lack of or inadequate or inaccessible health services, early childbearing, early marriage of the girl child, violence against young women and girls and gender discrimination as root causes of obstetric fistula, and that poverty remains the main social risk factor,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty,

Recognizing also that early pregnancy and early childbearing entail complications during pregnancy and delivery and a much higher risk of maternal mortality and morbidity, and deeply concerned that early childbearing and limited access to the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, including in the area of emergency obstetric care, cause high levels of obstetric fistula and other maternal morbidities as well as maternal mortality,

Recognizing further the serious immediate and long-term implications for health, including sexual and reproductive health, as well as increased vulnerability to HIV/AIDS, and the negative impact on psychological, social and economic development, that violence against the girl child and adolescent girls represents for individuals, families, communities and States,

Deeply concerned about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access by girls to education, nutrition and physical and mental health and in enjoyment by girls of fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence compared with boys and their often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices,

Welcoming the contribution by Member States, the international community and civil society to the global Campaign to End Fistula, bearing in mind that a people-centred approach to social and economic development is fundamental to protecting and empowering individuals and communities,

1. *Recognizes* the interlinkages between poverty, malnutrition, lack of or inadequate or inaccessible health services, early childbearing, early marriage of the girl child and gender discrimination as root causes of obstetric fistula, that poverty remains the main social risk factor, that the eradication of poverty is critical to meeting the needs and protecting and promoting the rights of girls and that continued urgent national and international action is required to eliminate it;

2. *Stresses* the need to address the social issues that contribute to the problem of obstetric fistula, such as early marriage of the girl child, early pregnancy, lack of access to sexual and reproductive health, lack of or inadequate education of girls, poverty and low status of women and girls;

3. *Also stresses* that States have the obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls, that they must exercise due diligence in order to prevent, investigate and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls and to provide protection to the victims, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to ensure the right of women and girls to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, and develop sustainable health systems and social services, with a view to ensuring access to such systems and services without discrimination, while paying special attention to adequate food and nutrition, family planning information, increasing knowledge and awareness and securing appropriate prenatal and post-natal care for the prevention of obstetric fistula;

5. *Also calls upon* States to ensure that girls have equal access to free and compulsory primary education of good quality and that they complete their education at that level, and to renew their efforts to improve and expand girls' and women's education at all levels, including at secondary and higher levels, as well as vocational education and technical training, in order to, inter alia, achieve gender equality, the empowerment of women and poverty eradication;

6. *Urges* States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses and, in addition, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage, and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

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[156] See resolution 55/2.

[157] See resolution 60/1.

[158] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[159] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[160] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378; and ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

7. *Calls upon* States and/or the relevant funds and programmes, organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and invites the international financial institutions and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector:

(*a*) To develop, implement and support national and international prevention, care and treatment strategies, as appropriate, to address effectively the condition of obstetric fistula and to develop further a multisectoral, multidisciplinary, comprehensive and integrated approach in order to bring about lasting solutions and put an end to obstetric fistula, maternal mortality and related morbidities, including through ensuring access to affordable, comprehensive, quality maternal health-care services, including skilled birth attendance and emergency obstetric care;

(*b*) To strengthen the capacity of health systems to provide the essential services needed to prevent obstetric fistula and to treat those cases that do occur by providing the continuum of services, including family planning, prenatal care, skilled birth attendance, emergency obstetric care and post-partum care, to young women and girls, including those living in poverty and in underserved rural areas where obstetric fistula is most common;

(*c*) To redouble their efforts to meet the internationally agreed goal of improving maternal health by increasing access to skilled attendance at birth and emergency obstetric care, and appropriate prenatal and post-natal care;

(*d*) To provide essential health services, equipment and supplies and skills training and income-generating projects to young women and girls so that they can break out of a cycle of poverty;

(*e*) To mobilize funding to provide free or subsidized fistula repairs, including through encouraging more networking among providers and the sharing of new treatment techniques and protocols;

(*f*) To provide health education, rehabilitation and counselling, including medical counselling, as key components of post-operative care;

(*g*) To bring obstetric fistula to the attention of policymakers and communities, thereby reducing the stigma and discrimination associated with it and helping women and girls suffering from obstetric fistula so that they can overcome abandonment and social exclusion together with the psychosocial implications thereof, inter alia, through support of social reintegration projects;

(*h*) To educate individual women and men, girls and boys, communities, policymakers and health professionals about how obstetric fistula can be prevented and treated and increase awareness of the needs of pregnant women and girls, including their right to the highest attainable standard of health, through working with community and religious leaders, traditional birth attendants, media, radio stations, influential public figures and policymakers, support the training of doctors, nurses and other health workers in lifesaving obstetric care, and include training on fistula repair, treatment and care as a standard element of health professionals' training curricula;

(*i*) To develop means of transportation and financing that enable women and girls to access obstetric care and treatment, and provide incentives and other means to secure the presence in rural areas of qualified health professionals who are able to perform interventions to prevent obstetric fistula;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to support the activities of the United Nations Population Fund and other partners in the global Campaign to End Fistula, including the World Health Organization, in establishing and financing regional fistula treatment and training centres through identifying and supporting health facilities that have the potential to serve as centres for treatment, training and convalescent care;

9. *Encourages* communication and networking among existing fistula centres to facilitate training, research, advocacy and fund-raising and the development and application of relevant standards, including *Obstetric Fistula: Guiding Principles for Clinical Management and Programme Development*, published by the World Health Organization, which provides background information along with principles for developing fistula prevention and treatment strategies and programmes;

10. *Urges* the international community to address the shortages of doctors, nurses and other health workers trained in lifesaving obstetric care, and of space and supplies, which limit the capacity of most of the fistula centres;

11. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies to support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches young women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas;

12. *Invites* Member States to contribute to efforts to end obstetric fistula, including, in particular, the United Nations Population Fund global Campaign to End Fistula, with the goal of eliminating obstetric fistula by 2015, in line with the targets of the millennium development goal of improving maternal health;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

RESOLUTION 62/139

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/435, para. 32)[161]

62/139. World Autism Awareness Day

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome[162] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[163] as well as the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

Recalling also the Convention on the Rights of the Child[164] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[165] according to which children with disabilities should enjoy a full and decent life, in conditions which ensure dignity, promote self-reliance and facilitate the child's active participation in the community, as well as the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with other children,

Affirming that ensuring and promoting the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons with disabilities is critical to achieving internationally agreed development goals,

Aware that autism is a lifelong developmental disability that manifests itself during the first three years of life and results from a neurological disorder that affects the functioning of the brain, mostly affecting children in many countries irrespective of gender, race or socio-economic status, and characterized by impairments in social interaction, problems with verbal and non-verbal communication and restricted, repetitive behaviour, interests and activities,[166]

Deeply concerned by the prevalence and high rate of autism in children in all regions of the world and the consequent development challenges to long-term health care, education, training and intervention programmes undertaken by Governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as well as its tremendous impact on children, their families, communities and societies,

Recalling that early diagnosis and appropriate research and interventions are vital to the growth and development of the individual,

1. *Decides* to designate 2 April as World Autism Awareness Day, to be observed every year beginning in 2008;

2. *Invites* all Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to observe World Autism Awareness Day in an appropriate manner, in order to raise public awareness of autism;

3. *Encourages* Member States to take measures to raise awareness throughout society, including at the family level, regarding children with autism;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and United Nations organizations.

RESOLUTION 62/140

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/435, para. 32)[167]

62/140. The girl child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/141 of 16 December 2005 and all relevant resolutions, including the agreed conclusions of the

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[161] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam and Yemen.

[162] See resolution 60/1.

[163] See resolution 55/2.

[164] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[165] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[166] See *International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems*, tenth revision (subcategories F84.0 and F84.1), endorsed by the forty-third World Health Assembly in May 1990.

[167] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Commission on the Status of Women, in particular those relevant to the girl child,

Reaffirming the equal rights of women and men as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling all human rights and other instruments relevant to the rights of the child, in particular the girl child, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[168] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[169] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[170]

Welcoming the opening for signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[171] particularly as it explicitly recognizes the specific situation of girls with disabilities,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the commitments relevant to the girl child made at the 2005 World Summit,[172]

Reaffirming also the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[173] the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted at the twenty-sixth special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, entitled "Global Crisis – Global Action",[174] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS of 2006,[175]

Reaffirming further all other relevant outcomes of major United Nations summits and conferences relevant to the girl child, as well as their five- and ten-year reviews, including the Beijing Declaration[176] and Platform for Action[177] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[178] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[179] the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[180] and the declaration adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session in 2005,[181]

Reaffirming the Dakar Framework for Action, adopted at the World Education Forum in 2000,[182]

Welcoming the study on violence against children by the independent expert appointed by the Secretary-General[183] and the in-depth study of the Secretary-General on all forms of violence against women,[184] and taking note of the recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and recognizing also that chronic poverty remains the single biggest obstacle to meeting the needs of and promoting and protecting the rights of children and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate it,

Recognizing also that girl children are often at greater risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence, and reaffirming the need to achieve gender equality to ensure a just and equitable world for girls, including through partnering with men and boys, as an important strategy for advancing the rights of the girl child,

Recognizing further that the empowerment of girls is key in breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence and in promoting and protecting the full and effective enjoyment of their human rights, and further recognizing that empowering girls requires the active support and engagement of their parents, legal guardians, families, boys and men, as well as the wider community,

Deeply concerned about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education, nutrition and physical and mental health care, in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys, and in leaving them more vulnerable than boys to the consequences of unprotected and premature sexual relations and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence, abuse, rape, incest, honour-related crimes and harmful traditional practices, such as female infanticide, early marriage, forced marriage, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

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[168] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[169] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[170] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[171] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[172] See resolution 60/1.

[173] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[174] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[175] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[176] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[177] Ibid., annex II.

[178] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[179] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[180] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[181] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[182] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[183] See A/61/299 and A/62/209.

[184] A/61/122 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

Deeply concerned also that female genital mutilation is an irreparable, irreversible harmful practice that affects more than 130 million women and girls alive today, and that each year a further 2 million girls are at risk of undergoing the harmful procedure,

Deeply concerned further that, in situations of poverty, war and armed conflict, girl children are among those most affected and furthermore become the victims of sexual violence, abuse and exploitation and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, which have a serious impact on the quality of their lives and leave them open to further discrimination, violence and neglect, thus limiting their potential for full development,

Emphasizing that increased access to education, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, for young people, especially girls, dramatically lowers their vulnerability to preventable diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS infection and sexually transmitted diseases,

Concerned by the increasing number of child-headed households, in particular those headed by orphan girls, including those orphaned by the HIV/AIDS pandemic,

Deeply concerned that early childbearing and limited access to sexual and reproductive health care, including in the area of emergency obstetric care, causes high levels of obstetric fistula and maternal mortality and morbidity,

Convinced that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and can be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and limitation or denial of their human rights,

Welcoming the holding of the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children on 11 and 12 December 2007,

1. *Stresses* the need for full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child as provided to her under human rights instruments, and urges States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[168] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[169] as a matter of priority;

2. *Urges* States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[185] and the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[186]

3. *Calls upon* States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[171] and the Optional Protocol thereto;[187]

4. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed and ratified or acceded to the Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973 (Convention No. 138) and the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182), of the International Labour Organization to consider doing so;

5. *Urges* all Governments and the United Nations system to strengthen efforts bilaterally and with international organizations and private sector donors in order to achieve the goals of the World Education Forum,[182] in particular that of eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, which have not been fully met, and to implement the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative as a means of reaching this goal, and calls for the implementation of and reaffirms the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[188] particularly those related to education;

6. *Calls upon* States and the international community to recognize the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination by making primary education compulsory and available free to all children, ensuring that all children have access to education of good quality, as well as making secondary education generally available and accessible to all, in particular through the progressive introduction of free education, bearing in mind that special measures to ensure equal access, including affirmative action, contribute to achieving equal opportunity and combating exclusion, and ensuring school attendance, in particular for girls and children from low-income families;

7. *Calls upon* all States to take measures to address the obstacles that continue to affect the achievement of the goals set forth in the Beijing Platform for Action,[177] as contained in

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[185] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[186] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[187] Resolution 61/106, annex II.

[188] See resolution 55/2.

paragraph 33 of the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[189] where appropriate, including the strengthening of national mechanisms to implement policies and programmes for the girl child and, in some cases, to enhance coordination among responsible institutions for the realization of the human rights of girls, as indicated in the further actions and initiatives;

8. *Stresses* the importance of a substantive assessment of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action with a life-cycle perspective so as to identify gaps and obstacles in the implementation process and to develop further actions for the achievement of the goals of the Platform for Action;

9. *Calls upon* all States and international and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to implement further the Beijing Platform for Action, in particular the strategic objectives relating to the girl child, and the further actions and initiatives, and to mobilize all necessary resources and support in order to achieve the goals and strategic objectives and actions set out in the Beijing Declaration[176] and Platform for Action;

10. *Urges* States to improve the situation of girl children living in poverty, deprived of nutrition, water and sanitation facilities, with no access to basic health-care services, shelter, education, participation and protection, taking into account that, while a severe lack of goods and services hurts every human being, it is most threatening and harmful to the girl child, leaving her unable to enjoy her rights, to reach her full potential and to participate as a full member of society;

11. *Also urges* States to ensure that the applicable requirements of the International Labour Organization for the employment of girls and boys are respected and effectively enforced and that girls who are employed have equal access to decent work, and equal payment and remuneration, are protected from economic exploitation, discrimination, sexual harassment, violence and abuse in the workplace, are aware of their rights and have access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, and further urges States to develop gender-sensitive measures, including national action plans where appropriate, to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, including commercial sexual exploitation, slavery-like practices, forced and bonded labour, trafficking and hazardous forms of child labour;

12. *Urges* all States to promote gender equality and equal access to basic social services, such as education, nutrition, health care, including sexual and reproductive health, vaccinations and protection from diseases representing the major causes of mortality, and to mainstream a gender perspective in all development policies and programmes, including those relating to children as well as those specific to the girl child;

13. *Also urges* all States to enact and enforce legislation to protect girls from all forms of violence and exploitation, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, female genital mutilation, rape, domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography, trafficking and forced migration, forced labour and early and forced marriage, and to develop age-appropriate safe and confidential programmes and medical, social and psychological support services to assist girls who are subjected to violence and discrimination;

14. *Urges* States to formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, which should be widely disseminated and should provide targets and timetables for implementation, as well as effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations, giving attention to the recommendations relating to the girl child of the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences and on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, of the Secretary-General in his in-depth study on all forms of violence against women[184] and of the independent expert in his study on violence against children;[183]

15. *Also urges* States to ensure that the right of children to express themselves and participate in all matters affecting them, in accordance with their age and maturity, is fully and equally enjoyed by girls;

16. *Further urges* States to involve girls, including girls with special needs, and their representative organizations, in decision-making processes, as appropriate, and to include them as full and active partners in identifying their own needs and in developing, planning, implementing and assessing policies and programmes to meet those needs;

17. *Recognizes* that a considerable number of girl children are particularly vulnerable, including orphans, children living on the street, internally displaced and refugee children, children affected by trafficking and sexual and economic exploitation, children living with HIV and AIDS, and children who are incarcerated who live without parental support, and therefore urges States, with the support of the international community, where relevant, to take appropriate measures to address the needs of such children by implementing national policies and strategies to build and strengthen governmental,

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[189] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

community and family capacities to provide a supportive environment for such children, including by providing appropriate counselling and psychosocial support, and ensuring their enrolment in school and access to shelter, good nutrition and health and social services on an equal basis with other children;

18. *Encourages* States to promote actions, including through bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation and financial assistance, for the social reintegration of children in difficult situations, in particular girls, considering, inter alia, views, skills and capacities that those children have developed in the conditions in which they lived and, where appropriate, with their meaningful participation;

19. *Urges* all States and the international community to respect, promote and protect the rights of the girl child, taking into account the particular vulnerabilities of the girl child in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations, and further urges States to take special measures for the protection of girls, in particular to protect them from sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, gender-based violence, including rape, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, torture, abduction and forced labour, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls, and to take into account their special needs in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation assistance and reintegration processes;

20. *Deplores* all cases of sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children, especially girls, in humanitarian crises, including those cases involving humanitarian workers and peacekeepers, and urges States to take effective measures to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and to make all possible efforts to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence;

21. *Deplores further* all acts of sexual exploitation, abuse of and trafficking in women and children by military, police and civilian personnel involved in United Nations operations, welcomes the efforts undertaken by United Nations agencies and peacekeeping operations to implement a zero-tolerance policy in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General and personnel-contributing countries to continue to take all appropriate action necessary to combat these abuses by such personnel, including through the full implementation without delay of those measures adopted in the relevant General Assembly resolutions based on recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;[190]

22. *Calls upon* Governments, civil society, including the media, and non-governmental organizations to promote human rights education and full respect for and the enjoyment of the human rights of the girl child, inter alia, through the translation, production and dissemination of age-appropriate and gender-sensitive information material on those rights to all sectors of society, in particular to children;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to ensure that all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, individually and collectively, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Labour Organization, take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child in country programmes of cooperation in accordance with national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

24. *Requests* all human rights treaty bodies and the human rights mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, including the special procedures, to adopt regularly and systematically a gender perspective in the implementation of their mandates and to include in their reports information on the qualitative analysis of violations of the human rights of women and girls, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in that regard;

25. *Requests* States to ensure that, in all policies and programmes designed to provide comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support, particular attention and support is given to the girl child at risk, infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, including pregnant girls and young and adolescent mothers, as part of the global effort to scale up significantly towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010;

26. *Invites* States to promote initiatives aimed at reducing the prices of antiretroviral drugs, especially second-line drugs, available to the girl child, including bilateral and private sector initiatives as well as initiatives on a voluntary basis taken by groups of States, including those based on innovative financing mechanisms that contribute to the mobilization of resources for social development, including those that aim to provide further access to drugs at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, and in this regard takes note of the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID;

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[190] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1).

27. *Calls upon* all States to integrate food and nutritional support with the goal that children, especially girl children, have access at all times to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences, for an active and healthy life, as part of a comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases;

28. *Urges* States and the international community to increase resources at all levels, particularly in the education and health sectors, to enable young people, especially girls, to gain the knowledge, attitudes and skills that they need to prevent HIV/AIDS and early pregnancy and to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including sexual and reproductive health;

29. *Urges* States, the international community, the relevant United Nations entities, civil society and international financial institutions to continue to actively support, through the allocation of increased financial resources, targeted innovative programmes that address ending female genital mutilation and developing and providing education programmes and sensitization workshops on the dire consequences of this harmful practice for the health of the girl and to provide for those who perform the harmful procedure training programmes so that they may adopt an alternative profession;

30. *Calls upon* States to strengthen the capacity of national health systems, and in this regard calls upon the international community to assist national efforts, including by allocation of adequate resources in order to provide essential services needed to prevent obstetric fistula and to treat those cases that occur by providing the continuum of services, including family planning, prenatal and post-natal care, skilled birth attendance, emergency obstetric care and post-partum care, to adolescent girls, including those living in poverty and in underserved rural areas where obstetric fistula is most common;

31. *Calls upon* States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, inter alia, by cooperating, supporting and participating in global efforts for poverty eradication at the global, regional and country levels, recognizing that strengthened availability and effective allocation of resources are required at all levels, in order to ensure that all the internationally agreed development and poverty eradication goals, including those set out in the Millennium Declaration, are realized within their time framework, and reaffirming that investments in children and the realization of their rights are among the most effective ways to eradicate poverty;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including an emphasis on ending female genital mutilation, using information provided by Member States, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, with a view to assessing the impact of the present resolution on the well-being of the girl child.

RESOLUTION 62/141

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/435, para. 32),[191] by a recorded vote of 183 to 1, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: None

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[191] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

62/141. Rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the rights of the child, the most recent of which is resolution 61/146 of 19 December 2006, and its resolution 60/141 of 16 December 2005, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/44 of 19 April 2005,[192]

Emphasizing that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[193] must constitute the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention,[194] as well as other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[195] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[196] and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[197] and recalling the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[198] the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[199] the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,[200] the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition[201] and the Declaration on the Right to Development,[202]

Recognizing the importance of the integration of child rights issues into the follow-up of the outcome documents of all major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits,

Taking note with appreciation of the reports of the Secretary-General on progress made towards achieving the commitments set out in the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly[203] and on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues raised in Assembly resolution 61/146,[204] as well as the report of the Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of the Child,[205]

Recognizing the importance of incorporating a child-protection perspective across the human rights agenda, as highlighted in the outcome of the 2005 World Summit,[206]

Taking note with appreciation of the attention paid to children in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[207] and in the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[208]

Noting with appreciation the attention paid to children in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[209]

Profoundly concerned that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical, in an increasingly globalized environment, as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, environmental damage, natural disasters, armed conflict, foreign occupation, displacement, violence, terrorism, abuse, exploitation, trafficking in children and their organs, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism, neglect, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, gender inequality, disability and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

Reiterating that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and recognizing that chronic poverty remains the single biggest obstacle to meeting the needs of and promoting and protecting the rights of children, and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate it,

Reaffirming that democracy, development, peace and security, and the full and effective enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and contribute to the eradication of extreme poverty,

Reaffirming also the need for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes relating to children, and recognizing the child as a rights holder in all policies and programmes relating to children,

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[192] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[193] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[194] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[195] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[196] See resolution 55/2.

[197] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[198] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[199] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[200] See resolution 2542 (XXIV).

[201] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[202] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[203] A/62/259.

[204] A/62/182.

[205] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Third Committee*, 14th meeting (A/C.3/62/SR.14), and corrigendum.

[206] See resolution 60/1, para. 128.

[207] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[208] Resolution 61/177, annex.

[209] Resolution 61/295, annex.

Welcoming the holding of a commemorative high-level plenary meeting on 11 and 12 December 2007 to evaluate progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and the Plan of Action contained in the document entitled "A world fit for children", recalling that particular attention must be paid to the protection and the rights of children living in poverty, and encouraging the inclusion of children and young people in delegations of Member States,

I

Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto

1. *Reaffirms* that the general principles of, inter alia, the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development provide the framework for all actions concerning children, including adolescents;

2. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[193] and the Optional Protocols thereto[194] as a matter of priority and to implement them fully by, inter alia, putting in place effective national legislation, policies and action plans, strengthening relevant governmental structures for children and ensuring adequate and systematic training in the rights of the child for all those working with and for children, as well as ensuring child rights education for children themselves;

3. *Urges* States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or the Optional Protocols thereto and to consider reviewing regularly other reservations with a view to withdrawing them in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;[195]

4. *Calls upon* States to establish or strengthen national bodies, such as independent ombudspersons for children, where appropriate, or other institutions for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child;

5. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and calls upon all States to strengthen their cooperation with the Committee, to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and to take into account its recommendations on implementation of the Convention;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the initiatives undertaken by the Committee aimed at promoting a better understanding of and fuller compliance with the rights enshrined in the Convention, namely, through the organization of days of general discussion and the adoption of general comments;

7. *Requests* all relevant organs and mechanisms of the United Nations system regularly and systematically to incorporate a strong child rights perspective throughout all activities in the fulfilment of their mandates, as well as to ensure that their staff are trained in child rights matters, and calls upon States to continue to cooperate closely with all those organs and mechanisms, in particular the special rapporteurs and special representatives of the United Nations system;

8. *Encourages* States to strengthen their national statistical capacities and to use statistics disaggregated, inter alia, by age, gender and other relevant factors that may lead to disparities and other statistical indicators at the national, subregional, regional and international levels to develop and assess social policies and programmes so that economic and social resources are used efficiently and effectively for the full realization of the rights of the child;

II

Promotion and protection of the rights of the child and non-discrimination against children

Non-discrimination

9. *Calls upon* all States to ensure the enjoyment by children of all their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights without discrimination of any kind;

10. *Notes with concern* the large number of children who are victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stresses the need to incorporate special measures, in accordance with the principles of, inter alia, non-discrimination, the best interests of the child, survival and development and respect for his or her views, in programmes to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and calls upon States to provide special support and ensure equal access to services for all children;

11. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary and effective measures, including legal reforms where appropriate, to eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls and all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, rape, sexual abuse and harmful traditional or customary practices, including female genital mutilation, early marriage, marriage without the free and full consent of the intending spouses and forced sterilization, by enacting and enforcing legislation and, where appropriate, by formulating comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to protect girls;

12. *Also calls upon* States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by children with disabilities in both the public and the private spheres, including access to good quality education and health care and protection from violence, abuse and neglect, and to develop and, where it already exists, to enforce legislation to prohibit discrimination against them in

order to ensure their inherent dignity, promote their self-reliance and facilitate their active participation and integration in the community, taking into account the particularly difficult situation of children with disabilities living in poverty;

13. *Urges* all States to respect and promote the right of girls and boys to express themselves freely, to ensure that their views are given due weight, in accordance with their age and maturity, in all matters affecting them and to involve children, including children with special needs, in decision-making processes, taking into account the evolving capacities of children and the importance of involving children's organizations and child-led initiatives;

14. *Also urges* all States in particular to strengthen the participation of children and adolescents in planning and implementation relating to matters that affect them, such as health, environment, education, social and economic welfare and protection against violence, abuse and exploitation;

Registration, family relations and adoption or other forms of alternative care

15. *Once again urges* all States parties to intensify their efforts to comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[193] to preserve the child's identity, including nationality, name and family relations, as recognized by law, to allow for the registration of the child immediately after birth, to ensure that registration procedures are simple, expeditious and effective and provided at minimal or no cost and to raise awareness of the importance of birth registration at the national, regional and local levels;

16. *Encourages* States to adopt and enforce laws and improve the implementation of policies and programmes to protect children growing up without parents or caregivers, recognizing that, where alternative care is necessary, family-and community-based care should be promoted over placement in institutions, and in this context welcomes the ongoing process aimed at elaborating a set of United Nations guidelines for the appropriate use and conditions of alternative care for children, which are aimed at enhancing the implementation of the Convention and of other relevant legal international human rights instruments, regarding the protection and well-being of children who are in need of alternative care or who are at risk of becoming so;

17. *Calls upon* States to guarantee, to the extent consistent with the obligations of each State, the right of a child whose parents reside in different States to maintain, on a regular basis, save in exceptional circumstances, personal relations and direct contact with both parents by providing enforceable means of access and visitation in both States and by respecting the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of their children;

18. *Also calls upon* States to address and pay particular attention to cases of international parental or familial child abduction, and encourages States to engage in multilateral and bilateral cooperation to resolve these cases, preferably by accession to or ratification of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction,[210] and therefore to be in full compliance with the Convention, and to facilitate, inter alia, the return of the child to the country in which he or she resided immediately before the removal or retention;

19. *Further calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to prevent and combat illegal adoptions and all adoptions that are not in the best interests of the child;

Economic and social well-being of children

20. *Calls upon* States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, including by strengthening international cooperation in this field;

Eradication of poverty

21. *Calls upon* States to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts for poverty eradication at the global, regional and country levels, recognizing that strengthened availability and effective allocation of resources are required at all these levels, in order to ensure that all the internationally agreed development and poverty eradication goals, including those set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[196] are realized within their time framework, and reaffirms that investments in children and the realization of their rights are among the most effective ways to eradicate poverty;

22. *Reaffirms* that the primary responsibility for ensuring an enabling environment for securing the well-being of children, in which the rights of each and every child are promoted and respected, rests with each individual State;

23. *Calls upon* all States and the international community to mobilize all necessary resources, support and efforts to eradicate poverty, according to national plans and strategies and in consultation with national Governments, including through an integrated and multifaceted approach based on the rights and well-being of children, and to continue their efforts to realize the internationally agreed development and poverty eradication goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

Right to education

24. *Recognizes* the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity and non-discrimination by making primary education compulsory and available free to all children, ensuring that all children have access to education of good quality, as well as making secondary education generally

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[210] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1343, No. 22514.

available and accessible to all, in particular through the progressive introduction of free education, bearing in mind that special measures to ensure equal access, including affirmative action, contribute to achieving equal opportunity and combating exclusion, and ensuring school attendance, in particular for girls and children from low-income families in order to achieve the objectives of Education for All, with the aim of realizing millennium development goal 2;

25. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education,[211] which is devoted to the right to inclusive education of persons with disabilities, and in this context calls upon States to consider carefully the recommendations contained therein, namely, to take steps towards ensuring an effective inclusive education system;

Right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health

26. *Calls upon* States:

(*a*) To take all necessary measures to ensure the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to develop sustainable health systems and social services, ensuring access to such systems and services without discrimination, paying special attention to adequate food and nutrition and combating disease and malnutrition, to access to safe drinking water and sanitation, to the special needs of male and female adolescents and to reproductive and sexual health, and securing appropriate prenatal and post-natal care for mothers, including measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and in this context to realize millennium development goals 4, 5 and 6;

(*b*) To assign priority to developing and implementing activities and programmes aimed at treating and preventing addictions, in particular addiction to alcohol and tobacco, and the abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and inhalants;

(*c*) To support adolescents to be able to deal positively and responsibly with their sexuality in order to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS infection and to implement measures to increase their capacity to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS through, inter alia, the provision of health care, including for sexual and reproductive health, and through preventive education that promotes gender equality;

(*d*) To develop and implement strategies, policies and programmes that identify and address those factors that make individuals particularly vulnerable to HIV infection in order to complement prevention programmes that address activities that place individuals at risk for HIV infection, such as risky and unsafe behaviour and injecting drug use;

(*e*) To promote initiatives aimed at reducing the prices of antiretroviral drugs, especially second-line drugs, available to boys and girls, including bilateral and private sector initiatives, as well as initiatives on a voluntary basis taken by groups of States, including those based on innovative financing mechanisms that contribute to the mobilization of resources for social development, especially those that aim to provide further access to drugs at affordable prices to children in developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, and in this regard takes note of the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID;

(*f*) To design and implement programmes to provide social services and support to pregnant adolescents and adolescent mothers, in particular by enabling them and also the adolescent fathers to continue and complete their education;

Right to food

27. *Calls upon* all States to take immediate steps to eliminate child hunger, including through the adoption or strengthening of national programmes to address food security and adequate livelihoods, as well as nutritional security, especially regarding vitamin A, iron and iodine deficiencies, the promotion of breastfeeding, as well as programmes (for example, for school meals) that should ensure adequate nutrition for all children;

Promoting and protecting the rights of children, including children in particularly difficult situations

28. *Calls upon* all States to prevent violations of the rights of children working and/or living on the street, including discrimination, arbitrary detention and extrajudicial, arbitrary or summary executions, torture and all kinds of violence and exploitation, and to bring the perpetrators to justice, to adopt and implement policies for the protection, social and psychosocial rehabilitation and reintegration of those children and to adopt economic, social and educational strategies to address the problems of children working and/or living on the street;

29. *Also calls upon* all States to protect refugee, asylum-seeking and internally displaced children, taking into account their gender-specific needs, in particular those who are unaccompanied, who are particularly exposed to violence and risks in connection with armed conflict, such as recruitment, sexual violence and exploitation, stressing the need for States as well as the international community to continue to pay more systematic and in-depth attention to the special assistance, protection and development needs of those children through, inter alia, programmes aimed at rehabilitation and physical and psychological recovery, and to programmes for voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement, to give priority to family tracing and family reunification and, where appropriate, to cooperate with international humanitarian and refugee organizations, including by facilitating their work;

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[211] A/HRC/4/29 and Add.1–3.

30. *Further calls upon* all States to ensure, for children belonging to minorities and vulnerable groups, including migrant children and indigenous children, the enjoyment of all human rights as well as access to health care, social services and education on an equal basis with others and to ensure that all such children, in particular victims of violence and exploitation, receive special protection and assistance;

31. *Calls upon* all States to address, as a matter of priority, the vulnerabilities faced by children affected by and living with HIV, by providing support and rehabilitation to those children and their families, women and the elderly, particularly in their role as caregivers, promoting child-oriented HIV/AIDS policies and programmes and increased protection for children orphaned and affected by HIV/AIDS, ensuring access to treatment and intensifying efforts to develop new treatments for children, and building, where needed, and supporting the social security systems that protect them;

32. *Also calls upon* all States to protect, in law and in practice, the inheritance and property rights of orphans, with particular attention to underlying gender-based discrimination, which may interfere with the fulfilment of these rights;

33. *Encourages* States to promote actions, including through bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation and financial assistance, for the social reintegration of children in difficult situations, considering, inter alia, views, skills and capacities that those children have developed in the conditions in which they lived and, where appropriate, with their meaningful participation;

Child labour

34. *Calls upon* all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour, to promote education as a key strategy in this regard, including the creation of vocational training and apprenticeship programmes and the integration of working children into the formal education system, and to examine and devise economic policies, where necessary, in cooperation with the international community, that address factors contributing to these forms of child labour;

35. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed and ratified or acceded to the Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973 (Convention No. 138) and the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182) of the International Labour Organization to consider doing so;

Children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law

36. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those States in which the death penalty has not been abolished:

(*a*) To abolish by law, as soon as possible, the death penalty and life imprisonment without possibility of release for those under the age of 18 years at the time of the commission of the offence;

(*b*) To comply with their obligations as assumed under relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[212]

(*c*) To keep in mind the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty and the guarantees set out in United Nations safeguards adopted by the Economic and Social Council;

37. *Also calls upon* all States to ensure that no child in detention is sentenced to forced labour or any form of cruel or degrading punishment, or deprived of access to and provision of health-care services, hygiene and environmental sanitation, education, basic instruction and vocational training;

Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

38. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To criminalize and penalize effectively all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, including all acts of paedophilia, including within the family or for commercial purposes, child pornography and child prostitution, child sex tourism, trafficking in children, the sale of children and the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies for these purposes, and to take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

(*b*) To ensure the prosecution and punishment of offenders, whether local or foreign, by the competent national authorities, either in the country in which the crime was committed, in the country of which the offender is a national or resident, in the country of which the victim is a national, or on any other basis permitted under domestic law, and for these purposes to afford one another the greatest measure of assistance and the necessary collaboration for prevention, detection, investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings;

(*c*) To criminalize and penalize effectively the sale of children, including for the purposes of transfer of organs of the child for profit, to increase cooperation at all levels to prevent and dismantle networks trafficking in or selling children and their organs and, for those States that have not yet done so, to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[213]

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[212] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

(*d*) To give due consideration to the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights aspects of the victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in her last report,[214] which was devoted to the subject of forced marriage in the context of trafficking in persons;

(*e*) In cases of trafficking in children, the sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism, to address effectively the needs of victims, including their safety, legal assistance and protection, physical and psychological recovery and full reintegration into society, paying particular attention to their gender-specific needs, including through bilateral and multilateral technical cooperation and financial assistance;

(*f*) To combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices against children, including through the adoption, effective application and enforcement of preventive, rehabilitative and punitive measures targeting customers or individuals who sexually exploit or sexually abuse children, as well as by ensuring public awareness;

(*g*) To give priority to the identification of norms and standards on the responsibilities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises, particularly those involved in information and communications technologies, related to respect for the rights of children, including the right to be protected from sexual abuse and exploitation, particularly in the virtual realm, as prohibited by the relevant legal instruments, and to outline basic measures to be taken for implementation;

(*h*) To mobilize public awareness, involving families and communities, with the participation of children, concerning the protection of children against all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse;

(*i*) To contribute to the prevention and elimination of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography by adopting a holistic approach, addressing the contributing factors, including underdevelopment, poverty, economic disparities, inequitable socio-economic structures, dysfunctional families, lack of education, urban-rural migration, gender discrimination, criminal or irresponsible adult sexual behaviour, child sex tourism, organized crime, harmful traditional practices, armed conflicts and trafficking in children;

(*j*) To take measures to eliminate the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation that leads to trafficking, including sexual exploitation and the sex tourism demand;

Children affected by armed conflict

39. *Strongly condemns* any recruitment or use of children in armed conflict contrary to international law, as well as other violations and abuses committed against children affected by armed conflict, and urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged in such practices to end them;

40. *Recalls*, in accordance with international humanitarian law, that indiscriminate attacks against civilians, including children, are prohibited and that they shall not be the object of attack, including by way of reprisal or excessive use of force, condemns these practices, and demands that all parties immediately put an end to them;

41. *Calls upon* States:

(*a*) When ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,[215] to raise the minimum age for voluntary recruitment of persons into the national armed forces from that set out in article 38, paragraph 3, of the Convention, bearing in mind that under the Convention persons under 18 years of age are entitled to special protection, and to adopt safeguards to ensure that such recruitment is not forced or coerced;

(*b*) To take all feasible measures to ensure the demobilization and effective disarmament of children used in armed conflicts and to implement effective measures for their rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration into society, in particular through educational measures, taking into account the rights and the specific needs and capacities of girls;

(*c*) To ensure timely and adequate funding for rehabilitation and reintegration efforts for all children associated with armed forces and groups, particularly in support of national initiatives, to secure the long-term sustainability of such efforts;

(*d*) To encourage the involvement of young people in activities concerning the protection of children affected by armed conflict, including programmes for reconciliation, peace consolidation, peacebuilding and children-to-children networks;

(*e*) To protect children affected by armed conflict, in particular from violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and to ensure that they receive timely, effective humanitarian assistance, in accordance with international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[216] and calls upon the international community to hold those responsible for violations accountable, inter alia, through the International Criminal Court;

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[213] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[214] A/HRC/4/23 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1.

[215] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2173, No. 27531.

[216] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

(*f*) To take all feasible measures, in accordance with international humanitarian law and human rights law, as a matter of priority, to prevent the recruitment and use of children by armed groups, as distinct from the armed forces of a State, including the adoption of policies that do not tolerate the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict, and legal measures necessary to prohibit and criminalize such practices;

42. *Takes note* of the updating of the Cape Town Principles on child soldiers,[217] which led to the Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups (the Paris Principles),[218] encourages Member States to consider using the Principles and Guidelines to inform their work in protecting children from the effects of armed conflicts, and requests the relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, and invites civil society to assist Member States in this field;

43. *Reaffirms* the essential roles of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Human Rights Council for the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of children, including children affected by armed conflict, and notes the increasing role played by the Security Council in ensuring protection for children affected by armed conflict;

44. *Notes with appreciation* the steps taken regarding Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005 and the efforts of the Secretary-General to implement the monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict in accordance with that resolution, with the participation of and in cooperation with national Governments and relevant United Nations and civil society actors, including at the country level, as well as the work carried out by United Nations child protection advisers in peacekeeping operations;

45. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, recognizes the progress achieved since the establishment of the mandate of the Special Representative, takes note of part one of her report to the General Assembly,[219] and looks forward to the continuation of her work and activities in the future with due respect to resolution 60/231 of 23 December 2005;

46. *Takes note* of part two of the report of the Special Representative,[219] on the strategic review of the 1996 study by Ms. Graça Machel entitled "Impact of armed conflict on children",[220] and of the significant developments and achievements in the protection of children in armed conflict at the national and international levels, calls upon Member States and observers, and invites relevant entities of the United Nations system as well as civil society, as appropriate, to carefully study its recommendations, recognizes the need for discussion on the issues raised therein, and stresses the need for the views of Member States to be fully taken into account in this regard;

III

Elimination of violence against children

47. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the independent expert for the United Nations study on violence against children,[221] and notes the very positive response to the study from Member States and the progress made in translating and disseminating widely the study, the complementary *World Report on Violence against Children*, prepared by the independent expert, and the innovative child-friendly version of the report and educational materials;

48. *Encourages* all States and requests United Nations entities, regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue to widely disseminate and follow up on the study;

49. *Urges* all States to exercise leadership to end all forms of violence against children and support advocacy in this regard at all levels, including at the local, national, regional and international levels, and by all sectors, especially by political, community and religious leaders, as well as the public and private sectors, the media and civil society;

50. *Requests* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the organizations that are members of the Inter-Agency Group on Violence against Children, to continue to explore ways and means, within their respective mandates, by which they can contribute more effectively to addressing the need to prevent and to respond to all forms of violence against children;

51. *Invites* all relevant international and regional human rights mechanisms, as appropriate, including relevant treaty bodies, in particular the Committee on the Rights of the Child and special procedures, to consider how to use most effectively their respective mandates to contribute to the elimination of violence against children;

52. *Condemns* all forms of violence against children, including physical, mental, psychological and sexual violence, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, child abuse and exploitation, hostage-taking, domestic violence, trafficking in or sale of children and their organs, paedophilia, child prostitution, child pornography, child sex tourism, gang-related violence, bullying and harmful traditional practices, and

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[217] See E/CN.4/1998/NGO/2.

[218] Available from www.unicef.org.

[219] A/62/228.

[220] See A/51/306 and Add.1.

[221] See A/62/209.

urges States to strengthen efforts to prevent and protect children from all such violence through a comprehensive approach and to develop a multifaceted and systematic framework, which is integrated into national planning processes, to respond to violence against children;

53. *Also condemns* all kinds of abduction of children, in particular extortive abduction and abduction of children in situations of armed conflict, including for the recruitment and use of children in armed conflicts, and urges States to take all appropriate measures to secure their unconditional release, rehabilitation, reintegration and reunification with their families;

54. *Urges* all States to strengthen international cooperation and mutual assistance to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence and to end impunity for crimes against children;

55. *Recognizes* the contribution of the International Criminal Court in ending impunity for the most serious crimes against children, including genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, and calls upon States not to grant amnesties for such crimes;

56. *Acknowledges* the contributions of the international criminal tribunals and special courts in ending impunity for the most serious crimes against children, including genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes;

57. *Urges* all States:

(*a*) To take effective and appropriate legislative and other measures or, where they exist, strengthen legislation to prohibit and eliminate all forms of violence against children;

(*b*) To consider taking appropriate measures to assert the right of children to respect for their human dignity and physical integrity and to prohibit and eliminate any emotional or physical violence or any other humiliating or degrading treatment;

(*c*) To give priority attention to the prevention of all forms of violence against children and to addressing its underlying causes, through a systematic, comprehensive and multifaceted approach;

(*d*) To protect children from all forms of violence or abuse by all those who work with and for children, including in educational settings, as well as by government officials, such as the police, law enforcement authorities and employees and officials in detention centres or welfare institutions;

(*e*) To end impunity for perpetrators of crimes against children, investigate and prosecute such acts of violence and impose appropriate penalties;

(*f*) To recognize that persons convicted of violent offences against and sexual abuse of children who continue to pose a risk of harm to children should be prevented from working with children;

(*g*) To actively engage with children and respect their views in all aspects of prevention, response and monitoring of violence against them, taking into account article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[193]

(*h*) To ensure national research and documentation to identify vulnerable groups of children, inform policy and programmes at all levels and track progress and best practices towards preventing all forms of violence against children;

(*i*) To strive to change attitudes that condone or normalize any form of violence against children, including cruel, inhuman or degrading forms of discipline, harmful traditional practices and all forms of sexual violence;

(*j*) To take measures to promote constructive and positive forms of discipline and child development approaches in all settings, including the home, schools and other educational settings and throughout care and justice systems;

(*k*) To take measures to ensure that all those who work with and for children protect children from bullying and implement preventive and anti-bullying policies;

(*l*) To establish and develop safe, well-publicized, confidential and accessible mechanisms to enable children, their representatives and others to report violence against children as well as to file complaints in cases of violence against children;

(*m*) To address the gender dimension of all forms of violence against children and incorporate a gender perspective in all policies adopted and actions taken to protect children against all forms of violence, acknowledging that girls and boys face varying risks from different forms of violence at different ages and in different situations, and in this context recalls the agreed conclusions on the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-first session;[222]

(*n*) To further develop the capacity of all those who work with and for children and families to contribute to the elimination of all forms of violence against children, by investing in systematic education and training programmes, both initial and in-service, on preventing, detecting and responding to violence against children; norms, such as guidelines or codes of conduct, incorporating the rejection of all forms of violence against children, should be formulated and implemented;

(*o*) To ensure that all victims of violence have access to appropriate child-sensitive health and social services; special attention should be paid to the gender-specific needs of girls and boys who are victims of violence;

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[222] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 7* (E/2007/27), chap. I, sect. A.

58. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint for a period of three years a Special Representative on violence against children, at the highest possible level, after which time the mandate should be evaluated, including with regard to its funding, and ensure that the necessary support is made available to the Special Representative for the effective and independent performance of his/her mandate, encourages the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the World Health Organization and the International Labour Organization to cooperate with and provide support to the Special Representative, including financial support, and calls upon States and institutions concerned, and invites the private sector, to provide voluntary contributions for that purpose;

59. *Recommends* that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children, taking care to avoid duplication with relevant United Nations mechanisms and treaty bodies:

(*a*) Act as a high-profile and independent global advocate to promote the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children in all regions, acting as a catalyst to stimulate the engagement of Member States and civil society to prevent and respond to violence against children, keeping the issue high on the international agenda and maintaining the attention to the issue of violence against children achieved through the process of the United Nations study on violence against children;

(*b*) Promote and support, in cooperation with Member States, the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children, where appropriate, recommending measures, ways and means at the national, regional and international levels to eliminate violence against children and its causes and to remedy its consequences, promoting and ensuring country ownership of national plans and programmes in this regard;

(*c*) Identify and share good practices to prevent and respond to violence against children, between States and across regions, assist Member States in their efforts to develop more comprehensive and systematic data collection on violence against children, and ensure cross-fertilization of experiences between the various sectors addressing violence against children, including those focused on human rights, child protection, well-being, development, public health and education;

(*d*) Work closely and cooperate fully with relevant United Nations treaty bodies and mechanisms, including, but not limited to, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, within their respective mandates, building upon existing inter-agency structures, and bearing in mind the ongoing process of the reviewing of mandates in the Human Rights Council;

(*e*) Also work closely and cooperate with the United Nations system and the existing mandates of United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies that have responsibilities in the area of violence against children, in particular those that are members of the Inter-Agency Group on Violence against Children;

(*f*) Establish a mutually supportive collaboration with civil society, including relevant non-governmental organizations and the private sector, and work to promote the increased involvement of children and young people in initiatives to prevent and respond to violence against children;

60. *Urges* Governments and requests the specialized agencies, relevant United Nations organs that work in the area of violence against children and regional, intergovernmental and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, as well as relevant United Nations mechanisms and treaty bodies, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to cooperate with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children and to provide information, where appropriate, on the measures adopted to ensure and respect the right of children to be protected from violence;

61. *Requests* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children, upon his/her appointment, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to cooperate and coordinate their activities, bearing in mind their complementarity, and in this regard to ensure between them, within their respective mandates, that the situations of all children subject to or at risk of violence are addressed, including those of armed conflict, foreign occupation, genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, terrorism or hostage-taking, or where peacekeeping operations are deployed, in order to ensure that no child is left uncovered;

62. *Requests* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children to report annually to the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council and to ensure that this reporting contains relevant, accurate and objective information on violence against children, taking into account the views of Member States and observers, the outcome of the special sessions of the Assembly on children and the United Nations study on violence against children, bearing in mind existing mandates;

IV

Follow-up

63. *Decides:*

(*a*) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the rights of the child, containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[193] and the issues addressed in the present resolution;

(*b*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the progress achieved and the remaining challenges on the children and armed conflict agenda;

(*c*) To invite the Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

(*d*) To continue its consideration of the question at its sixty-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", focusing section III of the resolution on the rights of the child on "Child labour, with a special emphasis on its causes, including poverty and lack of education" in 2008 and on "The right of the child to express his/her views freely in all matters affecting him/her" in 2009.

RESOLUTION 62/142

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/437, para. 26),[223] by a recorded vote of 130 to 2, with 53 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

62/142. Inadmissibility of certain practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[224] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[225] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[226] and other relevant human rights instruments,

Recalling the provisions of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2004/16 of 16 April 2004[227] and 2005/5 of 14 April 2005,[228] as well as General Assembly resolutions 60/143 of 16 December 2005 and 61/147 of 19 December 2006 on this issue and resolution 61/149 of 19 December 2006 entitled "Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action",

Recalling also the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal and the Judgement of the Tribunal, which recognized, inter alia, the SS organization and all its integral parts, including the Waffen SS, as criminal and declared it responsible for many war crimes and crimes against humanity,

Recalling further the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[229] in particular paragraph 2 of the Declaration and paragraph 86 of the Programme of Action,

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[223] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Cape Verde, Cuba, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Namibia, Nigeria, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

[224] Resolution 217 A (III).

[225] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[226] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[227] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[228] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[229] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

Recalling equally the study undertaken by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[230] and taking note of his report,[231]

Alarmed, in this regard, at the spread in many parts of the world of various extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups,

1. *Reaffirms* the provision of the Durban Declaration[229] in which States condemned the persistence and resurgence of neo-Nazism, neo-Fascism and violent nationalist ideologies based on racial and national prejudice and stated that those phenomena could never be justified in any instance or in any circumstances;

2. *Expresses deep concern* about the glorification of the Nazi movement and former members of the Waffen SS organization, including by erecting monuments and memorials as well as holding public demonstrations in the name of the glorification of the Nazi past, the Nazi movement and neo-Nazism;

3. *Expresses concern* at recurring attempts to desecrate or demolish monuments erected in remembrance of those who fought against Nazism during the Second World War, as well as to unlawfully exhume or remove the remains of such persons, and urges States in this regard to fully comply with their relevant obligations, inter alia, under article 34 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 1949;[232]

4. *Notes with concern* the increase in the number of racist incidents in several countries and the rise of skinhead groups, which have been responsible for many of these incidents, as well as the resurgence of racist and xenophobic violence targeting members of ethnic, religious or cultural communities and national minorities, as observed by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in his latest report;[231]

5. *Reaffirms* that such acts may be qualified to fall within the scope of activities described in article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[226] and that they may represent a clear and manifest abuse of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association as well as the rights to freedom of opinion and expression within the meaning of those rights as guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[224] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[225] and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

6. *Stresses* that the practices described above do injustice to the memory of the countless victims of crimes against humanity committed in the Second World War, in particular those committed by the SS organization, and poison the minds of young people, and that those practices are incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter and are incompatible with the goals and principles of the Organization;

7. *Also stresses* that such practices fuel contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and contribute to the spread and multiplication of various extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups;

8. *Emphasizes* the need to take the necessary measures to put an end to the practices described above, and calls upon States to take more effective measures in accordance with international human rights law to combat those phenomena and the extremist movements, which pose a real threat to democratic values;

9. *Reaffirms* that, according to article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, States parties to that instrument are, inter alia, under the obligation:

(*a*) To condemn all propaganda and all organizations that are based on ideas of racial superiority or that attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form;

(*b*) To undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of the Convention;

(*c*) To declare as an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(*d*) To declare illegal and prohibit organizations and organized and all other propaganda activities that promote and incite racial discrimination and to recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(*e*) To prohibit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, from promoting or inciting racial discrimination;

10. *Encourages* those States that have made reservations to article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to give serious consideration to withdrawing such reservations as a matter of priority;

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[230] E/CN.4/2006/16 and Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1 and Add.3 and 4.

[231] See A/62/306.

[232] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

11. *Recalls* the request of the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/5[228] that the Special Rapporteur continue to reflect on this issue, make relevant recommendations in his future reports and seek and take into account in this regard the views of Governments and non-governmental organizations;

12. *Urges* Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the exercise of the aforementioned task;

13. *Decides* to remain seized of the issue.

RESOLUTION 62/143

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/437, para. 26),[233] by a recorded vote of 177 to 3, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Norway

62/143. Report of the Human Rights Council on the preparations for the Durban Review Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/149 of 19 December 2006 and Human Rights Council resolution 3/2 of 8 December 2006,[234]

Recalling also Human Rights Council decision 6/105 of 28 September 2007,[235] in which the Council invited the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference to submit its reports to the General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the modalities of the Review Conference have yet to be finalized,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference on its first session,[236] including the annexes and appendices thereto, in particular the decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session;[237]

2. *Endorses* the decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its organizational session.

RESOLUTION 62/144

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/438, para. 23)[238]

62/144. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[239] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and

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[233] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Cuba, Dominica, Indonesia, Jamaica, Lebanon and Norway.

[234] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. II, sect A.

[235] See A/HRC/6/L.11. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53).

[236] A/62/375.

[237] Ibid., annex I.

[238] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Thailand, Tunisia and United Arab Emirates.

[239] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its sixty-first[240] and previous sessions,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 61/150 of 19 December 2006,

Reaffirming also its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, containing the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and recalling its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, containing the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which, inter alia, upheld the right to self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[241]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the question to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 62/145

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/438, para. 23),[242] by a recorded vote of 127 to 52, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech

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[240] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[241] A/62/184.

[242] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Chile, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Switzerland, Tonga, Tunisia

62/145. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 61/151 of 19 December 2006, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/2 of 7 April 2005,[243]

Recalling also all of its relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling further the relevant resolutions and international instruments adopted by the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity, inter alia, the Organization of African Unity Convention for the elimination of mercenarism in Africa,[244] as well as the African Union,[245]

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the self-determination of peoples, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States,

Reaffirming also that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, all peoples have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

Reaffirming further the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[246]

Alarmed and concerned at the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries, in particular in Africa and in small States,

Deeply concerned at the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policy and economies of affected countries resulting from criminal mercenary activities,

Extremely alarmed and concerned about recent mercenary activities in Africa and other places and the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of those countries,

Concerned by the new modalities of mercenarism, and noting that the recruitment of former military personnel and ex-policemen by private military and private security companies to serve in their employ as "security guards" in zones of armed conflict seems to be continuing,

Convinced that, notwithstanding the way in which they are used or the form that they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of all human rights by peoples,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;[247]

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are causes for grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers, inter alia, encourage the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges once again* all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to impede the right of peoples to self-determination, to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or to dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity

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[243] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[244] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1490, No. 25573.

[245] On 8 July 2002, the Organization of African Unity ceased to exist and, in its place, the African Union came into force on 9 July 2002.

[246] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[247] See A/62/301.

of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the right of peoples to self-determination;

5. *Requests* all States to exercise the utmost vigilance against any kind of recruitment, training, hiring or financing of mercenaries, including nationals, by private companies offering international military consultancy and security services, as well as to impose a specific ban on such companies intervening in armed conflicts or actions to destabilize constitutional regimes;

6. *Encourages* States that import the military assistance, consultancy and security services provided by private companies to establish regulatory national mechanisms for the registering and licensing of those companies in order to ensure that imported services provided by those private companies neither impede the enjoyment of human rights nor violate human rights in the recipient country;

7. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider taking the necessary action to accede to or ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;[248]

8. *Welcomes* the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

9. *Condemns* mercenary activities in Africa, and commends the Governments of Africa on their collaboration in thwarting those illegal actions, which have posed a threat to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of those countries and the exercise of the right of their peoples to self-determination;

10. *Calls upon* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever and wherever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur and to bring to trial those found responsible or to consider their extradition, if so requested, in accordance with domestic law and applicable bilateral or international treaties;

11. *Condemns* any form of impunity granted to perpetrators of mercenary activities and to those responsible for the use, recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to bring them, without distinction, to justice;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to cooperate with and assist the judicial prosecution of those accused of mercenary activities in transparent, open and fair trials;

13. *Requests* the Working Group to continue the work already done by the previous Special Rapporteurs on the strengthening of the international legal framework for the prevention and sanction of the recruitment, use, financing and training of mercenaries, taking into account the proposal for a new legal definition of a mercenary drafted by the Special Rapporteur in his report to the Commission on Human Rights at its sixtieth session;[249]

14. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right of peoples to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by those activities;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Office of the High Commissioner for its support for convening in Panama the regional governmental consultation for Latin American and Caribbean States on traditional and new forms of mercenary activities as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular regarding the effects of the activities of private military and security companies on the enjoyment of human rights, and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to convene other regional governmental consultations on this matter;

16. *Requests* the Working Group to continue to take into account, in the discharge of its mandate, the fact that mercenary activities continue to occur in many parts of the world and are taking on new forms, manifestations and modalities, and in this regard requests its members to continue to pay particular attention to the impact of the activities of private companies offering military assistance, consultancy and security services on the international market on the enjoyment of human rights and the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;

17. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Working Group in the fulfilment of its mandate;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Working Group with all the necessary assistance and support for the fulfilment of its mandate, both professional and financial, including through the promotion of cooperation between the Working Group and other components of the United Nations system that deal with countering mercenary-related activities, in order to meet the demands of its current and future activities;

19. *Requests* the Working Group to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the present resolution and to report, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session its findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the enjoyment of all human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;

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[248] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2163, No. 37789.

[249] See E/CN.4/2004/15, para. 47.

20. *Decides* to consider at its sixty-third session the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 62/146

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/438, para. 23),[250] by a recorded vote of 176 to 5, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Nauru

62/146. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

Recalling, in this regard, its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970 entitled "Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations",

Bearing in mind the International Covenants on Human Rights,[251] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[252] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[253] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[254]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[255]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[256]

Recalling further the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[257] and noting in particular the reply of the Court, including on the right of peoples to self-determination, which is a right *erga omnes*,[258]

Recalling the conclusion of the Court, in its advisory opinion of 9 July 2004, that the construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian

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[250] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Palestine.

[251] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[252] Resolution 217 A (III).

[253] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[254] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[255] See resolution 50/6.

[256] See resolution 55/2.

[257] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[258] Ibid., advisory opinion, para. 88.

Territory, including East Jerusalem, along with measures previously taken, severely impedes the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination,[259]

Expressing the urgent need for the resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis and for the speedy achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Stressing the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling its resolution 61/152 of 19 December 2006,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

2. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination.

RESOLUTION 62/147

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.1, para. 16)[260]

62/147. International Covenants on Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/149 of 16 December 2005 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/69 of 21 April 2004,[261]

Mindful that the International Covenants on Human Rights[262] constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaties in the field of human rights and, together with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[263] form the core of the International Bill of Human Rights,

Recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[262] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[262] and reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, that they should be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt or excuse States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

Recognizing the important role of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in examining the progress made by States parties in fulfilling the obligations undertaken in the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[264] and in providing recommendations to States parties on their implementation,

Considering that the effective functioning of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is indispensable for the full and effective implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights,

Noting the ongoing deliberations on the proposal to rectify the legal status of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Recognizing the importance of regional human rights instruments and monitoring mechanisms in complementing the universal system of promotion and protection of human rights,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights[262] as major components of international efforts to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Strongly appeals* to all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[262] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[262] and to consider as a matter of priority acceding to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[264] and making the declaration provided for in article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and, while acknowledging that additional States have recently become

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[259] Ibid., para. 122.

[260] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[261] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[262] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[263] Resolution 217 A (III).

[264] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

parties to these instruments, requests the Secretary-General to continue to support the annual treaty event to this end;

3. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to intensify systematic efforts to encourage States to become parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights and, through the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights, to assist such States, at their request, in ratifying or acceding to the Covenants and to the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with a view to achieving universal adherence;

4. *Calls for* the strictest compliance by States parties with their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and, where applicable, the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

5. *Emphasizes* that States must ensure that any measure to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under relevant international law, including their obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights, and takes note with appreciation of the reports submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism;[265]

6. *Stresses* the importance of avoiding the erosion of human rights by derogation, and recalls that certain rights are recognized as non-derogable in any circumstances, underlines the exceptional and temporary nature of any such derogations, and that they must be in accordance with the conditions and procedures stipulated under article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, bearing in mind the need for States parties to provide the fullest possible information during states of emergency so that the justification for the appropriateness of measures taken in those circumstances can be assessed, and in this regard takes note of General Comment No. 29 adopted by the Human Rights Committee;[266]

7. *Encourages* States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible and to regularly review such reservations with a view to withdrawing them so as to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the relevant treaty;

8. *Welcomes* the annual reports of the Human Rights Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-first[267] and sixty-second[268] sessions, and takes note of the General Comments adopted by the Committee, including the most recent, General Comment No. 32 on the right to equality before courts and tribunals and to a fair trial;[269]

9. *Also welcomes* the reports of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions[270] and on its thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions,[271] and takes note of the General Comments adopted by the Committee, including the most recent, General Comment No. 17 on the right of everyone to benefit from the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he or she is the author,[272] and General Comment No. 18 on the right to work;[273]

10. *Expresses regret* at the number of States parties that have failed to fulfil their reporting obligations under the International Covenants on Human Rights, urges States parties to fulfil their reporting obligations on time, invites them to make use of the harmonized guidelines on reporting under the international human rights treaties, including guidelines on a common core document and treaty-specific documents,[274] when submitting reports, and urges States to attend and participate in the consideration of the reports by the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights when so requested;

11. *Urges* States parties to make use in their reports of sex-disaggregated data, and stresses the importance of integrating a gender perspective in the implementation of the International Covenants on Human Rights at the national level, including in the national reports of States parties and in the work of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

12. *Strongly encourages* States parties that have not yet submitted core documents to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to do so, invites them to make use of the harmonized guidelines on reporting, and also invites all States parties regularly to review and update their

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[265] See A/60/370, A/61/267 and A/62/263; A/HRC/4/26 and Add.1–3; and E/CN.4/2006/98 and Add.1 and 2.

[266] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/56/40), vol. I, annex VI.

[267] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 40* and corrigendum (A/61/40 (Vols. I and II) and A/61/40 (Vol. I)/Corr.1).

[268] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/62/40).

[269] Ibid., vol. I, annex VI.

[270] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 2* (E/2006/22).

[271] Ibid., *2007, Supplement No. 2* (E/2007/22).

[272] Ibid., *2006, Supplement No. 2* (E/2006/22), annex IX.

[273] Ibid., annex X.

[274] HRI/GEN/2/Rev.4, chap. I.

core documents while bearing in mind the current discussion on the elaboration of an expanded core document;

13. *Urges* States parties to take duly into account, in implementing the provisions of the International Covenants on Human Rights, the recommendations and observations made during the consideration of their reports by the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the views adopted by the Human Rights Committee under the first Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[262]

14. *Urges* all States to publish the texts of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in as many local languages as possible and to distribute them and make them known as widely as possible to all individuals within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction;

15. *Urges* each State party to give particular attention to the dissemination at the national level of their reports submitted to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and, further, to translate, publish and make available as widely as possible to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction by appropriate means the full text of the recommendations and observations made by the Committees after the examination of those reports;

16. *Reiterates* that States parties should take into account, in their nomination of members to the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, that the Committees shall be composed of persons of high moral character and recognized competence in the field of human rights, consideration being given to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having legal experience, and to equal representation of women and men, and that members serve in their personal capacity, and also reiterates that, in the elections of the Committees, consideration shall be given to equitable geographical distribution of membership and to the representation of the different forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems;

17. *Invites* the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, when considering the reports of States parties, to continue to identify specific needs that might be addressed by United Nations departments, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, including through the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

18. *Stresses* the need for improved coordination among relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies in supporting States parties, upon their request, in implementing the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and encourages continued efforts in this direction;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made so far by the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to improve the efficiency of their working methods, encourages the Committees to pursue their efforts, welcomes in this regard the meetings held by the Committees and States parties to exchange ideas on how to render the working methods of the Committees more efficient, and encourages all States parties to continue to contribute to the dialogue with practical and concrete proposals and ideas on ways to improve the effective functioning of the Committees;

20. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Working Group on the Harmonization of Working Methods of Treaty Bodies,[275] and looks forward to further deliberations in this regard;

21. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fourth session,[276] and encourages all parties to participate actively in the fifth session;

22. *Encourages* the specialized agencies that have not yet done so to submit their reports on the progress made in achieving the observance of the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in accordance with article 18 of the Covenant, and expresses its appreciation to those that have done so;

23. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to assist States parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights in the timely preparation of their reports, including by convening seminars or workshops at the national level for the training of government officials engaged in the preparation of such reports and by exploring other possibilities at the request of States, such as the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights effectively assists the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in the implementation of their respective mandates by providing, inter alia, adequate Secretariat staff resources and conference and other relevant support services;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of the status of the International Covenants on Human Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including all reservations and declarations, through the United Nations websites.

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[275] HRI/MC/2007/2 and Add.1.

[276] A/HRC/6/8.

RESOLUTION 62/148

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.1, para. 16)[277]

62/148. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that no one shall be subjected to torture or to other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Recalling that freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is a non-derogable right that must be protected under all circumstances, including in times of international or internal armed conflict or disturbance, and that the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is affirmed in relevant international instruments,

Recalling also that a number of international, regional and domestic courts, including the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, have recognized that the prohibition of torture is a peremptory norm of international law and have held that the prohibition of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is customary international law,

Recalling further the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[278] without prejudice to any international instrument or national legislation which contains or may contain provisions of wider application,

Emphasizing the importance of properly interpreting and implementing the obligations of States with respect to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and of abiding strictly by the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention,

Noting that under the Geneva Conventions of 1949[279] torture and inhuman treatment are a grave breach and that under the statutes of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[280] acts of torture can constitute crimes against humanity and, when committed in a situation of armed conflict, constitute war crimes,

Welcoming the establishment of national mechanisms for the prevention of torture pursuant to the obligations of States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[281] which entered into force on 22 June 2006,

Acknowledging the adoption of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in its resolution 61/177 of 20 December 2006, and recognizing that the entry into force of the Convention, expected before the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, will be a significant event,

Commending the persistent efforts of civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations and the considerable network of centres for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, to combat torture and to alleviate the suffering of victims of torture,

Bearing in mind the special procedures review process being undertaken by the Human Rights Council, and its relevant resolutions,

1. *Condemns* all forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including through intimidation, which are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever and can thus never be justified, and calls upon all States to implement fully the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

2. *Emphasizes* that States must take persistent, determined and effective measures to prevent and combat torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including their gender-based manifestations, and stresses that all acts of torture must be made offences under domestic criminal law;

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[277] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[278] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[279] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[280] Ibid., vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[281] Resolution 57/199, annex.

3. *Also emphasizes* the importance of States ensuring proper follow-up to the recommendations and conclusions of the relevant treaty bodies and mechanisms, including the Committee against Torture, the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

4. *Condemns* any action or attempt by States or public officials to legalize, authorize or acquiesce in torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment under any circumstances, including on grounds of national security or through judicial decisions;

5. *Stresses* that all allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment must be promptly and impartially examined by the competent national authority, and that those who encourage, order, tolerate or perpetrate acts of torture must be held responsible, brought to justice and severely punished, including the officials in charge of the place of detention where the prohibited act is found to have been committed;

6. *Takes note* in this respect of the Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Istanbul Principles)[282] as a useful tool in efforts to prevent and combat torture and of the updated set of principles for the protection of human rights through action to combat impunity;[283]

7. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[278] to fulfil their obligation to submit for prosecution or extradite those alleged to have committed acts of torture;

8. *Encourages* all States to ensure that persons convicted of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment have no subsequent involvement in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any person under arrest, detention, imprisonment or other deprivation of liberty;

9. *Emphasizes* that acts of torture in armed conflict are serious violations of international humanitarian law and in this regard constitute war crimes, that acts of torture can constitute crimes against humanity and that the perpetrators of all acts of torture must be prosecuted and punished;

10. *Strongly urges* States to ensure that any statement that is established to have been made as a result of torture shall not be invoked as evidence in any proceedings, except against a person accused of torture as evidence that the statement was made;

11. *Stresses* that States must not punish personnel who are involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment or any other form of deprivation of liberty for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

12. *Urges* States not to expel, return ("refouler"), extradite or in any other way transfer a person to another State where there are substantial grounds for believing that the person would be in danger of being subjected to torture, and recognizes that diplomatic assurances, where used, do not release States from their obligations under international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, in particular the principle of non-refoulement;

13. *Stresses* that national legal systems must ensure that victims of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment obtain redress, are awarded fair and adequate compensation and receive appropriate social and medical rehabilitation, urges States to take effective measures to this end, and in this regard encourages the development of rehabilitation centres;

14. *Recalls* its resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988 on the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment, and in this context stresses that ensuring that any individual arrested or detained is promptly brought before a judge or other independent judicial officer in person and permitting prompt and regular medical care and legal counsel as well as visits by family members and independent monitoring mechanisms are effective measures for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

15. *Reminds* all States that prolonged incommunicado detention or detention in secret places can facilitate the perpetration of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and can in itself constitute a form of such treatment, and urges all States to respect the safeguards concerning the liberty, security and dignity of the person;

16. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate effective legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures to prevent and prohibit the production, trade, export and use of equipment that is specifically designed to inflict torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

17. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

18. *Invites* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to make the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention concerning inter-State and individual communications, to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20 of the Convention and to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention with a

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[282] Resolution 55/89, annex.

[283] See E/CN.4/2005/102/Add.1.

view to enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee against Torture as soon as possible;

19. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including, in view of the high number of reports not submitted in time, their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning children and juveniles and persons with disabilities when submitting reports to the Committee;

20. *Calls upon* States parties also to give early consideration to signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[281] which provides further measures for use in the fight against and prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

21. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee and its report submitted in accordance with article 24 of the Convention,[284] recommends that the Committee continue to include information on the follow-up by States to its recommendations, and supports the Committee in its intention to further improve the effectiveness of its working sessions;

22. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with her mandate established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to continue to provide, at the request of States, advisory services for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including for the preparation of national reports to the Committee and for the establishment and operation of national preventive mechanisms, as well as technical assistance for the development, production and distribution of teaching material for this purpose;

23. *Notes with appreciation* the interim report of the Special Rapporteur,[285] and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to include in his recommendations proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including its gender-based manifestations;

24. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider including in his report information on the follow-up by States to his recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered, and on other official contacts;

25. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his task, to supply all necessary information requested by the Special Rapporteur, to fully and expeditiously respond to and follow up his urgent appeals, to give serious consideration to responding favourably to requests by the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries and to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on requested visits to their countries as well as with respect to the follow-up to his recommendations;

26. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views among the Committee, the Subcommittee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as for the pursuance of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, with regional organizations and mechanisms, as appropriate, and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to the prevention and eradication of torture, inter alia, by improving their coordination;

27. *Recognizes* the global need for international assistance to victims of torture, stresses the importance of the work of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, appeals to all States and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, and encourages contributions to the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to help finance the implementation of the recommendations made by the Subcommittee as well as education programmes of the national preventive mechanisms;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to transmit to all States the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Funds and to include the Funds on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

29. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the operations of the Funds;

30. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in preventing and combating torture and assisting victims of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for preventing and combating torture and assisting victims of torture;

31. *Calls upon* all States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

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[284] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/62/44).

[285] See A/62/221.

32. *Decides* to consider at its sixty-third session the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol, the report of the Committee against Torture and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

RESOLUTION 62/149

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173),[286] by a recorded vote of 104 to 54, with 29 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Chad, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United States of America, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Belarus, Bhutan, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Morocco, Niger, Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia

62/149. Moratorium on the use of the death penalty

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[287] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[288] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[289]

Recalling also the resolutions on the question of the death penalty adopted over the past decade by the Commission on Human Rights in all consecutive sessions, the last being resolution 2005/59 of 20 April 2005,[290] in which the Commission called upon States that still maintain the death penalty to abolish it completely and, in the meantime, to establish a moratorium on executions,

Recalling further the important results accomplished by the former Commission on Human Rights on the question of the death penalty, and envisaging that the Human Rights Council could continue to work on this issue,

Considering that the use of the death penalty undermines human dignity, and convinced that a moratorium on the use of the death penalty contributes to the enhancement and progressive development of human rights, that there is no conclusive evidence of the deterrent value of the death penalty and that any miscarriage or failure of justice in the implementation of the death penalty is irreversible and irreparable,

Welcoming the decisions taken by an increasing number of States to apply a moratorium on executions, followed in many cases by the abolition of the death penalty,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* about the continued application of the death penalty;

2. *Calls upon* all States that still maintain the death penalty:

(*a*) To respect international standards that provide safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty, in particular the minimum standards, as set out in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984;

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[286] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[287] Resolution 217 A (III).

[288] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[289] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[290] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

(*b*) To provide the Secretary-General with information relating to the use of capital punishment and the observance of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty;

(*c*) To progressively restrict the use of the death penalty and reduce the number of offences for which it may be imposed;

(*d*) To establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty;

3. *Calls upon* States which have abolished the death penalty not to reintroduce it;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its sixty-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 62/150

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173),[291] by a recorded vote of 182 to none, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Swaziland

62/150. Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 60/162 of 16 December 2005,

Reaffirming that United Nations electoral assistance and support for the promotion of democratization are provided only at the specific request of the Member State concerned,

Noting with satisfaction that increasing numbers of Member States are using elections as a peaceful means of discerning the will of the people, which builds confidence in representational governance and contributes to greater national peace and stability,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted on 10 December 1948,[292] in particular the principle that the will of the people, as expressed through periodic and genuine elections, shall be the basis of government authority, as well as the right freely to choose representatives through periodic and genuine elections, which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures,

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[291] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America.

[292] Resolution 217 A (III).

Taking note with interest of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/30 of 19 April 2004 on enhancing the role of regional, subregional and other organizations and arrangements in promoting and consolidating democracy[293] and Commission resolution 2005/32 of 19 April 2005 on democracy and the rule of law,[294]

Recognizing the need for strengthening democratic processes, electoral institutions and national capacity-building, including the capacity to administer fair elections, promote women's participation, increase citizen participation and provide civic education, in requesting countries in order to consolidate and regularize the achievements of previous elections and support subsequent elections,

Welcoming the support provided by States to the electoral assistance activities of the United Nations, inter alia, through the provision of electoral experts, including electoral commission staff, and observers, as well as through contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Assistance, the Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund and the United Nations Democracy Fund,

Welcoming also the contributions made by international and regional organizations and also by non-governmental organizations to enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[295]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[295]

2. *Commends* the electoral assistance provided upon request to Member States by the United Nations, and requests that such assistance continue on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the evolving needs of requesting countries to develop, improve and refine their electoral institutions and processes, recognizing that the fundamental responsibility for organizing free and fair elections lies with Governments;

3. *Requests* the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, in his role as United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters, to continue to inform Member States regularly about the requests received and the nature of any assistance provided;

4. *Requests* that the United Nations continue its efforts to ensure, before undertaking to provide electoral assistance to a requesting State, that there is adequate time to organize and carry out an effective mission for providing such assistance, including the provision of long-term technical cooperation, that conditions exist to allow a free and fair election and that the results of the mission will be reported comprehensively and consistently;

5. *Recommends* that, throughout the time span of the entire electoral cycle, including before and after elections, as appropriate, based on a needs assessment, the United Nations continue to provide technical advice and other assistance to requesting States and electoral institutions in order to help to strengthen their democratic processes;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the additional efforts being made to enhance cooperation with other international, governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to facilitate more comprehensive and needs-specific responses to requests for electoral assistance, encourages those organizations to share knowledge and experience in order to promote best practices in the assistance they provide and in their reporting on electoral processes, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations that have provided observers or technical experts in support of United Nations electoral assistance efforts;

7. *Recalls* the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Assistance, and, bearing in mind that the Fund is currently close to depletion, calls upon Member States to consider contributing to the Fund;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters and with the support of the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, to continue responding to the evolving nature of requests for assistance and the growing need for specific types of medium-term expert assistance aimed at supporting and strengthening the existing capacity of the requesting Government, in particular by enhancing the capacity of national electoral institutions;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Electoral Assistance Division with adequate human and financial resources to allow it to carry out its mandate, including to enhance the accessibility and diversity of the roster of electoral experts and the Organization's electoral institutional memory, and to continue to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is able to respond, within its mandate and in close coordination with the Division, to the numerous and increasingly complex and comprehensive requests from Member States for advisory services;

10. *Notes with satisfaction* the comprehensive coordination, under the auspices of the United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters, between the Electoral Assistance Division and the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat, and encourages further engagement of the Office of the High Commissioner in this context;

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[293] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[294] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[295] A/62/293.

11. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to continue its democratic governance assistance programmes in cooperation with other relevant organizations, in particular those that strengthen democratic institutions and linkages between civil society and Governments;

12. *Reiterates* the importance of reinforced coordination within and outside the United Nations system, and reaffirms the role of the United Nations focal point for electoral assistance in ensuring system-wide coherence and consistency and in strengthening the institutional memory and the development and dissemination of electoral policies;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on the status of requests from Member States for electoral assistance, and on his efforts to enhance support by the Organization for the democratization process in Member States.

RESOLUTION 62/151

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173),[296] by a recorded vote of 129 to 54, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Brazil, Chile, Equatorial Guinea, Singapore

62/151. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing, in particular, the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[297] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[298]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[299] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[299]

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[300] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third[301] and twenty-fourth[302] special sessions of the General Assembly, held in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000, respectively,

Recalling also its resolution 61/156 of 19 December 2006,

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[296] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[297] Resolution 217 A (III).

[298] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[299] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[300] See resolution 55/2.

[301] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[302] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Recalling further Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/17 of 14 April 2005 on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,[303]

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, inter alia, in the field of human rights,

Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process, but that it also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions, which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Reaffirming the commitment contained in paragraphs 19 and 47 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome[304] to promote fair globalization and the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization,

Realizing the need to undertake a thorough, independent and comprehensive assessment of the social, environmental and cultural impact of globalization on societies,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind, and aware that the risk of a global monoculture poses more of a threat if the developing world remains poor and marginalized,

Recognizing also that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

Emphasizing the global character of the migratory phenomenon, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and the need to protect the human rights of migrants, particularly at a time in which migration flows have increased in the globalized economy,

Expressing concern at the negative impact of international financial turbulence on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Recognizing that globalization should be guided by the fundamental principles that underpin the corpus of human rights, such as equity, participation, accountability, non-discrimination at both the national and the international levels, respect for diversity, tolerance and international cooperation and solidarity,

Emphasizing that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights, and that its immediate alleviation and eventual elimination must remain a high priority for the international community,

Strongly reiterating the determination to ensure the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including those agreed at the Millennium Summit that are described as the Millennium Development Goals, which have helped to galvanize efforts towards poverty eradication,

Deeply concerned at the inadequacy of measures to narrow the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, which has contributed, inter alia, to deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

Noting that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, by its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Emphasizes* that development should be at the centre of the international economic agenda and that coherence between national development strategies and international obligations and commitments is imperative for an enabling environment for development and an inclusive and equitable globalization;

3. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

4. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to create an environment at both the national and the global levels that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty through, inter alia, good governance within each country and at the international level, transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

5. *Recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, the fact that its benefits are very unevenly shared

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[303] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[304] See resolution 60/1.

and its costs unevenly distributed represents an aspect of the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights,[305] which focuses on the liberalization of agricultural trade and its impact on the realization of the right to development, including the right to food, and takes note of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

7. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society to promote equitable and environmentally sustainable economic growth for managing globalization so that poverty is systematically reduced and the international development targets are achieved;

8. *Recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

9. *Underlines* the urgent need to establish an equitable, transparent and democratic international system to strengthen and broaden the participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

10. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

11. *Also affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

12. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

13. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[306] and requests him to seek further the views of Member States and relevant agencies of the United Nations system and to submit a substantive report on the subject to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/152

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[307]

62/152. Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which it adopted by consensus the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms annexed to that resolution, and reiterating the importance of the Declaration and its wide dissemination,

Recalling also all previous resolutions on this subject, in particular its resolution 60/161 of 16 December 2005 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/67 of 20 April 2005,[308]

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007,[309]

Noting with deep concern that in many countries persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms are frequently facing threats, harassment and insecurity as a result of those activities, including through restrictions on freedom of association or expression or the right to peaceful assembly, or abuse of civil or criminal proceedings,

Gravely concerned that, in some instances, national security and counter-terrorism legislation and other measures have been misused to target human rights defenders or have hindered their work and safety in a manner contrary to international law,

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[305] E/CN.4/2002/54.

[306] A/62/222.

[307] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[308] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[309] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

Gravely concerned also by the continuing high level of human rights violations committed against persons engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms around the world and by the fact that in many countries impunity for threats, attacks and acts of intimidation against human rights defenders persists and that this has a negative impact on their work and safety,

Concerned by the considerable number of communications received by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders that, together with the reports submitted by some of the special procedure mechanisms, indicates the serious nature of the risks faced by human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders,

Emphasizing the important role that individuals, civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, groups and organs of society, including independent national institutions, play in the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including in combating impunity, promoting access to justice, information and public participation in decision-making and promoting, strengthening and preserving democracy, as well as in fighting poverty and promoting the right to development, and recalling that they all have rights as well as responsibilities and duties within and towards the community,

Recognizing the substantial role that human rights defenders can play in supporting efforts to strengthen peace and development, through dialogue, openness, participation and justice, including by monitoring, reporting on and contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling that, in accordance with article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[310] certain rights are recognized as non-derogable in any circumstances and that any measures derogating from other provisions of the Covenant must be in accordance with that article in all cases, and underlining the exceptional and temporary nature of any such derogations, as stated in General Comment No. 29 on states of emergency adopted by the Human Rights Committee on 24 July 2001,[311]

Acknowledging the significant work conducted by the Special Representative, and encouraging strengthened cooperation between the Special Representative and other special procedures of the Human Rights Council as well as other relevant United Nations bodies, offices, departments and specialized agencies and personnel, both at Headquarters and at the country level, within their mandates,

Welcoming regional initiatives for the promotion and protection of human rights and the cooperation between international and regional mechanisms for the protection of human rights defenders, and encouraging further development in this regard,

Welcoming also the steps taken by some States towards adopting national policies or legislation for the protection of individuals, groups and organs of society engaged in promoting and defending human rights,

Recalling that the primary responsibility for promoting and protecting human rights rests with the State, reaffirming that national legislation consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and other international obligations of the State in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms is the juridical framework within which human rights defenders conduct their activities, and noting with deep concern that the activities of some non-State actors pose a major threat to the security of human rights defenders,

Emphasizing the need for strong and effective measures for the protection of human rights defenders,

1. *Calls upon* all States to promote and give full effect to the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,[312] including by taking, as appropriate, practical steps to that end;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders[313] and her contribution to the effective promotion of the Declaration and the improvement of the protection of human rights defenders worldwide;

3. *Condemns* all human rights violations committed against persons engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms around the world, and urges States to take all appropriate action, consistent with the Declaration and all other relevant human rights instruments, to eliminate such human rights violations;

4. *Calls upon* all States to take all necessary measures to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, at both the local and the national levels, including in times of armed conflict and peacebuilding;

5. *Also calls upon* all States to ensure, protect and respect the freedom of expression and association of human rights defenders and, where registration is required, to facilitate

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[310] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[311] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/56/40), vol. I, annex VI.

[312] Resolution 53/144, annex.

[313] See A/62/225.

registration, including through the establishment of effective and transparent criteria and non-discriminatory, expeditious and inexpensive procedures in accordance with national legislation;

6. *Urges* States to ensure that any measures to combat terrorism and preserve national security comply with their obligations under international law, in particular under international human rights law, and do not hinder the work and safety of individuals, groups and organs of society engaged in promoting and defending human rights;

7. *Also urges* States to take appropriate measures to address the question of impunity for attacks, threats and acts of intimidation, including cases of gender-based violence, against human rights defenders and their relatives, including by ensuring that complaints from human rights defenders are promptly investigated and addressed in a transparent, independent and accountable manner;

8. *Urges* all States to cooperate with and assist the Special Representative in the performance of his/her mandate and to provide all information in a timely manner as well as to respond without undue delay to communications transmitted to them by the Special Representative;

9. *Calls upon* States to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Representative to visit their countries, and urges them to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Representative with respect to the follow-up to and implementation of his/her recommendations so as to enable the Special Representative to fulfil his/her mandate even more effectively;

10. *Invites* States to translate the Declaration into national languages and to take measures to improve its dissemination;

11. *Encourages* States to promote awareness and training in regard to the Declaration in order to enable officials, agencies, authorities and the judiciary to observe the provisions of the Declaration and thus to promote better understanding and respect for individuals, groups and organs of society engaged in promoting and defending human rights;

12. *Encourages* relevant United Nations bodies, including at the country level, within their respective mandates and working in cooperation with States, to give due consideration to the Declaration and to the reports of the Special Representative, and in this context requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to draw the attention of all relevant United Nations bodies, including at the country level, to the reports of the Special Representative;

13. *Requests* that the Office of the High Commissioner as well as other relevant United Nations bodies, offices, departments and specialized agencies, within their respective mandates, consider ways in which they can assist States in strengthening the role and security of human rights defenders, including in situations of armed conflict and peacebuilding;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Representative with human, material and financial resources in order to enable him/her to continue to carry out his/her mandate effectively, including through country visits;

15. *Requests* all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations, within their mandates, to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Representative in the implementation of his/her programme of activities;

16. *Requests* the Special Representative to continue to report annually on his/her activities to the General Assembly and to the Human Rights Council in accordance with his/her mandate;

17. *Decides* to consider the question at its sixty-fourth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 62/153

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[314]

62/153. Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world, for reasons including armed conflict, violations of human rights and natural or human-made disasters, who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious challenges that this is creating for the international community,

Recognizing that natural disasters are a cause of displacement and that the consequences of hazards can be prevented or substantially mitigated by integrating disaster risk reduction strategies into national development policies and programmes,

Conscious of the human rights and the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons, including in long-term displacement situations, and the responsibilities of States and the international community to strengthen further their protection and assistance,

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[314] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem in appropriate cooperation with the international community,

Noting the growing awareness of the international community of the issue of internally displaced persons worldwide and the urgency of addressing the root causes of their displacement and finding durable solutions, including voluntary return in safety and with dignity, or local integration,

Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law, and recognizing that the protection of internally displaced persons has been strengthened by identifying, reaffirming and consolidating specific standards for their protection, in particular through the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[315]

Welcoming the increasing dissemination, promotion and application of the Guiding Principles when dealing with situations of internal displacement,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/46 of 19 April 2005,[316] and recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[317] regarding the need to develop global strategies to address the problem of internal displacement,

Deploring practices of forced displacement and their negative consequences for the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by large groups of populations, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court that define the deportation or forcible transfer of population as a crime against humanity and the unlawful deportation or transfer, as well as ordering the displacement of, the civilian population as war crimes,[318]

Welcoming the cooperation established between the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons and the United Nations as well as other international and regional organizations, and encouraging further strengthening of his collaboration in order to promote better protection, assistance and development strategies for internally displaced persons,

Acknowledging with appreciation the important and independent contribution of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other humanitarian agencies in protecting and assisting internally displaced persons, in cooperation with relevant international bodies,

Recalling its resolution 60/168 of 16 December 2005,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons[319] and of his conclusions and recommendations;

2. *Commends* the Representative of the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken so far, for the catalytic role that he plays in raising the level of awareness about the plight of internally displaced persons and for his ongoing efforts to address their development and other specific needs, including through the mainstreaming of the human rights of internally displaced persons into all relevant parts of the United Nations system;

3. *Encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to continue his analysis of the root causes of internal displacement, the needs and human rights of those displaced, the development of benchmarks for assessing when displacement ends, measures of prevention and ways to strengthen protection, assistance and durable solutions for internally displaced persons, taking into account specific situations;

4. *Also encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to continue his efforts to promote comprehensive strategies that focus on prevention of displacement, on better protection and assistance and on durable solutions for those displaced, taking into account in this regard the primary responsibility of the States within their jurisdiction;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have provided protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and have supported the work of the Representative of the Secretary-General;

6. *Expresses particular concern* at the grave problems faced by many internally displaced women and children, including violence and abuse, sexual exploitation, forced recruitment and abduction, and welcomes the commitment of

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[315] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[316] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[317] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[318] Art. 7, paras. 1 (d) and 2 (d), and art. 8, paras. 2 (a) (vii) and 2 (e) (viii) (see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544).

[319] See A/62/227.

the Representative of the Secretary-General to pay more systematic and in-depth attention to their particular assistance, protection and development needs, as well as to other groups with special needs, such as severely traumatized individuals, older persons and persons with disabilities, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the increasing role of national human rights institutions in assisting internally displaced persons and in promoting and protecting their human rights;

8. *Notes* the importance of taking the human rights and the specific protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons into consideration, when appropriate, in peace processes, and emphasizes that durable solutions for internally displaced persons, including through voluntary return, sustainable reintegration and rehabilitation processes and their active participation, as appropriate, in the peacebuilding process, are necessary elements of effective peacebuilding;

9. *Welcomes* the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in this regard, and urges the Commission to intensify its efforts, within its mandate, in cooperation with national and transitional Governments and in consultation with the relevant United Nations entities, to incorporate the rights and the specific needs of internally displaced persons, including their voluntary return, reintegration and rehabilitation, as well as related land and property issues, when advising on or proposing country-specific peacebuilding strategies for post-conflict situations in cases under consideration, where applicable;

10. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[315] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, welcomes the fact that an increasing number of States, United Nations agencies and regional and non-governmental organizations are applying them as a standard, and encourages all relevant actors to make use of the Guiding Principles when dealing with situations of internal displacement;

11. *Welcomes* the fact that the Representative of the Secretary-General continues to use the Guiding Principles in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors, and requests him to continue his efforts to further the dissemination, promotion and application of the Guiding Principles and to provide support for efforts to promote capacity-building and the use of the Guiding Principles, as well as the development of domestic legislation and policies;

12. *Encourages* States to continue to develop and implement domestic legislation and policies dealing with all stages of displacement, including through the identification of a national focal point within the Government for issues of internal displacement and through the allocation of budget resources, and encourages the international community and national actors to provide financial support and cooperation to Governments, upon request, in this regard;

13. *Urges* all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the Representative of the Secretary-General, in particular Governments with situations of internal displacement, and to give serious consideration to inviting the Representative to visit their countries so as to enable him to continue and enhance dialogue with Governments in addressing situations of internal displacement, and thanks those Governments that have already done so;

14. *Invites* Governments to give serious consideration, in dialogue with the Representative of the Secretary-General, to the recommendations and suggestions addressed to them, in accordance with his mandate, and to inform him of measures taken thereon;

15. *Calls upon* Governments to provide protection and assistance, including reintegration and development assistance, to internally displaced persons, and to facilitate the efforts of relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations in these respects, including by further improving access to internally displaced persons;

16. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the inter-agency coordination of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, and welcomes continued initiatives taken in order to ensure better protection, assistance and development strategies for internally displaced persons, as well as better coordination of activities regarding them;

17. *Takes note* of the efforts currently under way by the United Nations humanitarian system, emphasizes the need to strengthen further inter-agency arrangements and the capacities of the United Nations agencies and other relevant actors to meet the immense humanitarian challenges of internal displacement, and underlines in this regard the importance of an effective, accountable and predictable collaborative approach;

18. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian assistance, human rights and development organizations to enhance their collaboration and coordination, through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and in countries with situations of internal displacement, and to provide all possible assistance and support to the Representative of the Secretary-General;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the increased attention paid to the issue of internally displaced persons in the consolidated inter-agency appeals process, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

20. *Recognizes* the relevance of the global database on internally displaced persons advocated by the Representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Governments to

continue to collaborate on and support this effort, including by providing relevant data on situations of internal displacement and financial resources;

21. *Welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by regional organizations, such as the African Union, the Organization of American States, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the Council of Europe, the Commonwealth and the Economic Community of West African States, to address the protection, assistance and development needs of internally displaced persons, and encourages them and other regional organizations to strengthen their activities and their cooperation with the Representative of the Secretary-General;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide his Representative, from within existing resources, with all necessary assistance to carry out his mandate effectively, and encourages the Representative to continue to seek the contributions of States, relevant organizations and institutions in order to create a more stable basis for his work;

23. *Requests* the Representative of the Secretary-General to prepare, for the General Assembly at its sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons at its sixty-fourth session.

RESOLUTION 62/154

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173),[320] by a recorded vote of 108 to 51, with 25 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, United Republic of Tanzania

62/154. Combating defamation of religions

The General Assembly,

Recalling that all States have pledged themselves, under the Charter of the United Nations, to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights in this regard,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000,[321] welcoming the resolve expressed in the Millennium Declaration to take measures to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies, and looking forward to its effective implementation at all levels, including in the context of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001,[322]

Recalling the proclamation of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations,[323] and inviting States, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, within existing resources, other international and regional organizations and civil societies to contribute to the implementation of the Programme of Action contained in the Global Agenda,

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[320] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[321] See resolution 55/2.

[322] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[323] See resolution 56/6.

Welcoming the launch of the Alliance of Civilizations initiative, intended to respond to the need for a committed effort by the international community, in order to promote mutual respect and understanding among different cultures and societies, and the appointment in this regard of the United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations,

Welcoming also the progress achieved in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

Underlining the importance of increasing contacts at all levels in order to deepen dialogue and reinforce understanding among different cultures, religions, beliefs and civilizations, and welcoming in this regard the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the Ministerial Meeting on Human Rights and Cultural Diversity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 3 and 4 September 2007,[324]

Reaffirming that discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief constitutes a violation of human rights and a disavowal of the principles of the Charter,

Convinced that respect for cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversity, as well as dialogue among and within civilizations, is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of the different cultures and nations of the world, while manifestations of cultural prejudice, intolerance and xenophobia towards people belonging to different cultures, religions and beliefs generate hatred and violence among peoples and nations throughout the world,

Recognizing the valuable contributions of all religions and beliefs to modern civilization and the contribution that dialogue among civilizations can make to an improved awareness and understanding of common values,

Reaffirming the need for all States to continue their national and international efforts to enhance dialogue and broaden understanding among civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs, and emphasizing that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance, respect for and freedom of religion and belief,

Underlining the important role of education in the promotion of tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Deeply alarmed at the rising trends towards discrimination based on religion and faith, including in some national policies and laws that stigmatize groups of people belonging to certain religions and faiths under a variety of pretexts relating to security and illegal immigration,

Alarmed at the serious instances of intolerance, discrimination and acts of violence based on religion or belief, intimidation and coercion motivated by extremism, religious or otherwise, occurring in many parts of the world, in addition to the negative projection of Islam in the media and the introduction and enforcement of laws that specifically discriminate against and target Muslims, particularly Muslim minorities following the events of 11 September 2001, and threatening the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting with concern that defamation of religions could lead to social disharmony and violations of human rights,

Recalling its resolution 61/164 of 19 December 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[325] and the conclusions contained therein;

2. *Expresses its deep concern* about the negative stereotyping of religions and manifestations of intolerance and discrimination in matters of religion or belief still in evidence in the world;

3. *Strongly deplores* physical attacks and assaults on businesses, cultural centres and places of worship of all religions as well as targeting of religious symbols;

4. *Expresses its deep concern* about programmes and agendas pursued by extremist organizations and groups aimed at the defamation of religions and incitement to religious hatred, in particular when condoned by Governments;

5. *Also expresses its deep concern* that Islam is frequently and wrongly associated with human rights violations and terrorism;

6. *Notes with deep concern* the intensification of the campaign of defamation of religions and the ethnic and religious profiling of Muslim minorities in the aftermath of the tragic events of 11 September 2001;

7. *Recognizes* that, in the context of the fight against terrorism and the reaction to counter-terrorism measures, defamation of religions and incitement to religious hatred becomes an aggravating factor that contributes to the denial of fundamental rights and freedoms of members of target groups, as well as their economic and social exclusion;

8. *Deplores* the use of the print, audio-visual and electronic media, including the Internet, and any other means to incite acts of violence, xenophobia or related intolerance and discrimination against Islam or any other religion, as well as targeting of religious symbols;

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[324] A/62/464, annex.

[325] A/62/288.

9. *Stresses* the need to effectively combat defamation of all religions and incitement to religious hatred, against Islam and Muslims in particular;

10. *Emphasizes* that everyone has the right to hold opinions without interference and the right to freedom of expression, and that the exercise of these rights carries with it special duties and responsibilities and may therefore be subject to limitations as are provided for by law and are necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others, protection of national security or of public order, public health or morals and respect for religions and beliefs;

11. *Urges* States to take action to prohibit the advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence;

12. *Also urges* States to provide, within their respective legal and constitutional systems, adequate protection against acts of hatred, discrimination, intimidation and coercion resulting from defamation of religions, to take all possible measures to promote tolerance and respect for all religions and beliefs and the understanding of their value systems and to complement legal systems with intellectual and moral strategies to combat religious hatred and intolerance;

13. *Urges* all States to ensure that all public officials, including members of law enforcement bodies, the military, civil servants and educators, in the course of their official duties, respect people regardless of their different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate against persons on the grounds of their religion or belief, and that any necessary and appropriate education or training is provided;

14. *Underscores* the need to combat defamation of religions and incitement to religious hatred by strategizing and harmonizing actions at the local, national, regional and international levels through education and awareness-raising;

15. *Urges* States to ensure equal access to education for all, in law and in practice, including access to free primary education for all children, both girls and boys, and access for adults to lifelong learning and education based on respect for human rights, diversity and tolerance, without discrimination of any kind, and to refrain from any legal or other measures leading to racial segregation in access to schooling;

16. *Calls upon* the international community to foster a global dialogue to promote a culture of tolerance and peace based on respect for human rights and diversity of religion and belief, and urges States, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the print and electronic media to support and participate in such a dialogue;

17. *Affirms* that the Human Rights Council shall promote universal respect for all religious and cultural values and address instances of intolerance, discrimination and incitement of hatred against members of any community or adherents of any religion;

18. *Takes note* of the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote and include human rights aspects in educational programmes, particularly the World Programme for Human Rights Education proclaimed by the General Assembly on 10 December 2004,[326] and calls upon the High Commissioner:

(*a*) To continue those efforts, focusing on the contributions of cultures, as well as religious and cultural diversity;

(*b*) To collaborate with other relevant international organizations in holding joint conferences designed to encourage the dialogue among civilizations and promote understanding of the universality of human rights and their implementation at various levels, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations and the unit within the Secretariat mandated to interact with various entities within the United Nations system and coordinate their contribution to the intergovernmental process;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the possible correlation between defamation of religions and the upsurge in incitement, intolerance and hatred in many parts of the world, to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/155

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[327]

62/155. Human rights and cultural diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[328] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[329] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[329] as well as other pertinent human rights instruments,

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[326] See resolutions 59/113 A and B.

[327] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[328] Resolution 217 A (III).

[329] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling also its resolutions 54/160 of 17 December 1999, 55/91 of 4 December 2000, 57/204 of 18 December 2002, 58/167 of 22 December 2003 and 60/167 of 16 December 2005, and recalling further its resolutions 54/113 of 10 December 1999, 55/23 of 13 November 2000 and 60/4 of 20 October 2005 concerning the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

Noting that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote cultural diversity, as well as the conservation and development of culture, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Culture Cooperation proclaimed on 4 November 1966 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,[330]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[331]

Recalling that, as stated in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, States have the duty to cooperate with one another, irrespective of the differences in their political, economic and social systems, in the various spheres of international relations, in the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, and in the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and all forms of religious intolerance,

Welcoming the adoption of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations by its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001,

Welcoming also the contribution of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to the promotion of respect for cultural diversity,

Welcoming further the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[332] together with its Action Plan,[333] adopted on 2 November 2001 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-first session, in which member States invited the United Nations system and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of the principles set forth in the Declaration and its Action Plan with a view to enhancing the synergy of actions in favour of cultural diversity,

Taking note of the Ministerial Meeting on Human Rights and Cultural Diversity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 3 and 4 September 2007,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Taking into account that a culture of peace actively fosters non-violence and respect for human rights and strengthens solidarity among peoples and nations and dialogue between cultures,

Recognizing that all cultures and civilizations share a common set of universal values,

Recognizing also that the promotion of the rights of indigenous people and their cultures and traditions will contribute to the respect for and observance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations,

Considering that tolerance of cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversities, as well as dialogue among and within civilizations, is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of different cultures and nations of the world, while manifestations of cultural prejudice, intolerance and xenophobia towards different cultures and religions generate hatred and violence among peoples and nations throughout the world,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind,

Convinced that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

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[330] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions*.

[331] A/62/254.

[332] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[333] Ibid., annex II.

Acknowledging the diversity of the world, recognizing that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind, acknowledging the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, and, in order to promote international peace and security, committing itself to advancing human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, as well as to encouraging tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples,

1. *Affirms* the importance for all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in a national and international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Welcomes* the adoption on 8 September 2000 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[334] in which Member States consider, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and that it should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity;

3. *Recognizes* the right of everyone to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications;

4. *Affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

5. *Expresses its determination* to prevent and mitigate cultural homogenization in the context of globalization, through increased intercultural exchange guided by the promotion and protection of cultural diversity;

6. *Affirms* that intercultural dialogue essentially enriches the common understanding of human rights and that the benefits to be derived from the encouragement and development of international contacts and cooperation in the cultural fields are important;

7. *Welcomes* the recognition at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of the necessity of respecting and maximizing the benefits of diversity within and among all nations in working together to build a harmonious and productive future by putting into practice and promoting values and principles such as justice, equality and non-discrimination, democracy, fairness and friendship, tolerance and respect within and among communities and nations, in particular through public information and educational programmes to raise awareness and understanding of the benefits of cultural diversity, including programmes in which the public authorities work in partnership with international and non-governmental organizations and other sectors of civil society;

8. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all enhances cultural pluralism, contributing to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural background, advancing the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights throughout the world and fostering stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

9. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national, regional and international levels is important for enhancing respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity;

10. *Also emphasizes* that tolerance and respect for diversity facilitate the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including gender equality and the enjoyment of all human rights by all, and underlines the fact that tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and the universal promotion and protection of human rights are mutually supportive;

11. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

12. *Urges* States to ensure that their political and legal systems reflect the multicultural diversity within their societies and, where necessary, to improve democratic institutions so that they are more fully participatory and avoid marginalization and exclusion of, and discrimination against, specific sectors of society;

13. *Calls upon* States, international organizations and United Nations agencies, and invites civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to recognize and promote respect for cultural diversity for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights;

14. *Stresses* the necessity of freely using the media and new information and communications technologies to create the conditions for a renewed dialogue among cultures and civilizations;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the present resolution, to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, as well as the considerations in the present resolution regarding the recognition and importance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations in the world, and to submit the report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

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[334] See resolution 55/2.

16. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to bear in mind fully the issues raised in the present resolution in the course of its activities for the promotion and protection of human rights;

17. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question at its sixty-fourth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 62/156

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[335]

62/156. Protection of migrants

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the protection of migrants, the most recent of which is resolution 61/165 of 19 December 2006, and recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/47 of 19 April 2005,[336]

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[337] which proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

Reaffirming also that everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State, and to leave any country, including his own, and return to his country,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[338] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[338] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[339] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[340] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[341] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[342] the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations[343] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[344]

Recalling also the provisions concerning migrants contained in the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits,

Underlining the importance of the Human Rights Council in promoting respect for the protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, including migrants,

Taking note of advisory opinion OC-16/99 of 1 October 1999 on the Right to Information on Consular Assistance in the Framework of the Guarantees of the Due Process of Law and advisory opinion OC-18/03 of 17 September 2003 on the Juridical Condition and Rights of Undocumented Migrants, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights,

Taking note also of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 31 March 2004 in the case concerning *Avena and Other Mexican Nationals*,[345] and recalling the obligations of States reaffirmed therein,

Recalling the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 14 and 15 September 2006 for the purpose of discussing the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development, which recognized the relationship between international migration, development and human rights, and taking note of the first meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, organized and hosted by the Government of Belgium from 9 to 11 July 2007,

Emphasizing the global character of the migratory phenomenon, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and dialogue in this regard, as appropriate, and the need to protect the human rights of migrants, particularly at a time in which migration flows have increased in the globalized economy and take place in a context of new security concerns,

Bearing in mind that policies and initiatives on the issue of migration, including those that refer to the orderly management of migration, should promote holistic approaches that take into account the causes and consequences of the phenomenon, as well as the full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants,

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[335] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uruguay.

[336] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[337] Resolution 217 A (III).

[338] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[339] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[340] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[341] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[342] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[343] Ibid., vol. 596, No. 8638.

[344] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[345] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4* (A/59/4), chap. V, sect. A.23; see also *Avena and Other Mexican Nationals (Mexico* v. *United States of America), Judgment, I.C.J. Reports 2004*, p. 12.

Noting that many migrant women are employed in the informal economy and in less skilled work compared with that of men, which puts those women at greater risk of abuse and exploitation,

Concerned about the large and growing number of migrants, especially women and children, who place themselves in a vulnerable situation by attempting to cross international borders without the required travel documents, and underlining the obligation of States to respect the human rights of those migrants,

Underlining the importance for States, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, to undertake information campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations and rights in the event of migration, so as to enable everyone to make informed decisions and to prevent them from utilizing dangerous means to cross international borders,

1. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

2. *Also calls upon* States to ensure that their laws and policies, including in the areas of counter-terrorism and combating transnational organized crime such as trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, fully respect the human rights of migrants;

3. *Takes note with interest* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of migrants;[346]

4. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[344] as a matter of priority, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to raise awareness of and promote the Convention;

5. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[347] and supplementing protocols thereto, namely, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air[348] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[349] to implement them fully, and calls upon States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them as a matter of priority;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on its fifth and sixth sessions;[350]

7. *Requests* all States, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to take into account in their policies and initiatives on migration issues the global character of the migratory phenomenon and to give due consideration to international, regional and bilateral cooperation in this field, including by undertaking dialogues on migration that include countries of origin, destination and transit, as well as civil society, including migrants, with a view to addressing, in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, its causes and consequences and the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration, granting priority to the protection of the human rights of migrants;

8. *Expresses concern* about legislation and measures adopted by some States that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants;

9. *Requests* States to adopt concrete measures to prevent the violation of the human rights of migrants while in transit, including in ports and airports and at borders and migration checkpoints, to train public officials who work in those facilities and in border areas to treat migrants respectfully and in accordance with the law, and to prosecute, in conformity with applicable law, any act of violation of the human rights of migrants, inter alia, arbitrary detention, torture and violations of the right to life, including extrajudicial executions, during their transit from their country of origin to the country of destination and vice versa, including their transit through national borders;

10. *Urges* States to ensure that repatriation mechanisms allow for the identification and special protection of persons in vulnerable situations and take into account, in conformity with their international obligations and commitments, the principle of the best interest of the child and family reunification;

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[346] A/HRC/4/24 and Add.1–3; see also A/62/218.

[347] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[348] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[349] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[350] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 48* (A/62/48).

11. *Underlines* the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship;

12. *Reaffirms emphatically* the duty of States parties to ensure full respect for and observance of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[343] in particular with regard to the right of all foreign nationals, regardless of their immigration status, to communicate with a consular official of the sending State in case of arrest, imprisonment, custody or detention, and the obligation of the receiving State to inform the foreign national without delay of his or her rights under the Convention;

13. *Strongly condemns* the manifestations and acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief, and urges States to apply the existing laws when xenophobic or intolerant acts, manifestations or expressions against migrants occur, in order to eradicate impunity for those who commit xenophobic and racist acts;

14. *Requests* all States, in conformity with national legislation and applicable international legal instruments to which they are party, to enforce labour law effectively, including by addressing violations of such law, with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

15. *Encourages* all States to remove obstacles that may prevent the safe, unrestricted and expeditious transfer of remittances of migrants to their country of origin or to any other countries, in conformity with applicable legislation, and to consider, as appropriate, measures to solve other problems that may impede such transfers;

16. *Welcomes* immigration programmes, adopted by some countries, that allow migrants to integrate fully into the host countries, facilitate family reunification and promote a harmonious, tolerant and respectful environment, and encourages States to consider the possibility of adopting these types of programmes;

17. *Requests* Member States, the United Nations system, international organizations, civil society and all relevant stakeholders, especially the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, to ensure that the perspective of the human rights of migrants is included among the priority issues in the ongoing discussions on international migration and development within the United Nations system, bearing in mind the discussions of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development held pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/208 of 23 December 2003;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the resources necessary, from within existing resources of the United Nations, for the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to meet for two separate sessions in 2008, the first session to be of two consecutive weeks' duration and the second session to be of one week's duration, for the purpose of meeting the demands of the workload arising from the increasing number of reports of States parties that have been submitted to the Committee, and invites the Committee to consider ways of further improving the effectiveness of its working sessions;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution at its sixty-third session and to include in that report an analysis of the ways and means to promote the human rights of migrants, including through the use of data and statistics on the contribution of migrants to recipient countries, taking into account the views of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, and decides to examine the question further under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 62/157

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[351]

62/157. Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Recalling also article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[352] article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[353] and other relevant human rights provisions,

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[351] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritius, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[352] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[353] Resolution 217 A (III).

Underlining the importance of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of, and its respect for, diversity, including with regard to religious expressions, and underlining also the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Considering that religion or belief, for those who profess either, is one of the fundamental elements in their conception of life and that freedom of religion or belief should be fully respected and guaranteed,

Concerned at attacks on religious places, sites and shrines, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

Recognizing the important work carried out by the Human Rights Committee in providing guidance with respect to the scope of the freedom of religion or belief,

Emphasizing that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance, respect and freedom of religion or belief,

Recognizing the importance of interreligious and intrareligious dialogue and the role of religious and other non-governmental organizations in promoting tolerance in matters relating to religion or belief, and in this regard welcoming the High-level Dialogue on Interreligious and Intercultural Understanding and Cooperation for Peace, held by the General Assembly on 4 and 5 October 2007,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, the most recent being resolution 61/161 of 19 December 2006, as well as Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007,[354]

1. *Condemns* all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, as well as violations of freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief;

2. *Stresses* that the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion applies equally to all people, regardless of their religions or beliefs, and without any discrimination as to their equal protection by the law;

3. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law, are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

4. *Recognizes with deep concern* the overall rise in instances of intolerance and violence directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and Christianophobia and the slow progress in the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief;[355]

5. *Recognizes with concern* the situation of persons in vulnerable situations, including refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons, as regards their ability freely to exercise their right to freedom of religion or belief;

6. *Expresses concern* over the persistence of institutionalized social intolerance and discrimination practised against many in the name of religion or belief;

7. *Condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audio-visual and electronic media or any other means;

8. *Emphasizes* that freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief and the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance on incitement to racial and religious hatred and the promotion of tolerance;[356]

10. *Urges* States to step up their efforts to eliminate intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, and to this end:

(*a*) To ensure that their constitutional and legislative systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief to all without distinction, inter alia, by the provision of effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, or the right to practise freely one's religion, including the right to change one's religion or belief, is violated;

(*b*) To ensure that no one within their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty or security of person because of religion or belief and that no one is subjected to torture or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights;

(*c*) To ensure, in particular, the right of all persons to worship or assemble in connection with a religion or belief and to establish and maintain places for these purposes and the right of all persons to write, issue and disseminate relevant publications in these areas;

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[354] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[355] See resolution 36/55.

[356] A/HRC/2/3.

(*d*) To ensure that, in accordance with appropriate national legislation and in conformity with international human rights law, the freedom of all persons and members of groups to establish and maintain religious, charitable or humanitarian institutions is fully respected and protected;

(*e*) To ensure that all public officials and civil servants, including members of law enforcement bodies, the military and educators, in the course of their official duties, respect different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate on the grounds of religion or belief, and that all necessary and appropriate education or training is provided;

(*f*) To promote and encourage, through education and other means, understanding, tolerance and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of a continued and strengthened dialogue among and within religions or beliefs, including among communities and religious leaders, and with the participation of women and youth, to promote greater tolerance, respect and mutual understanding;

12. *Also emphasizes* that equating any religion with terrorism should be avoided, as this may have adverse consequences on the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief of all members of the religious communities concerned;

13. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of all actors in society, including non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, to promote the implementation of the Declaration, and further encourages their work in promoting freedom of religion or belief and in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution;

14. *Welcomes* the work and the report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief;[357]

15. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, to respond favourably to requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries and to provide all necessary information for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the necessary resources to fully discharge the mandate of the Special Rapporteur;

17. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

18. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its sixty-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 62/158

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[358]

62/158. Human rights in the administration of justice

The General Assembly,

Calling attention to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

Mindful of the importance of ensuring respect for the rule of law and human rights in the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations, as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/23 of 26 July 2007 entitled "Supporting national efforts for child justice reform, in particular through technical assistance and improved United Nations system-wide coordination",

Recalling its resolution 60/159 of 16 December 2005, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/43 of 19 April 2004 on human rights in the administration of justice,[359] in which the Commission requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its sixty-third session a report on human rights in the administration of justice, in particular juvenile justice,

1. *Invites* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the relevant United Nations programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

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[357] See A/62/280 and Corr.1.

[358] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[359] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

2. *Invites* the Human Rights Council and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to closely coordinate their activities relating to the administration of justice;

3. *Invites* the Human Rights Council to continue consideration of the question of human rights in the administration of justice, based on the report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice;[360]

4. *Welcomes* the increased attention paid to the issue of juvenile justice by the United Nations system, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, particularly through technical assistance activities;

5. *Also welcomes* the strengthening of the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice, and encourages the members of the Panel to further increase their cooperation, in order to enhance the capacity of the Panel to respond favourably to requests for technical assistance in the field of juvenile justice;

6. *Invites* Governments, relevant international and regional bodies, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations to devote particular attention to the issue of women in prison, including the children of women in prison, with a view to identifying and addressing the gender-specific aspects and challenges related to this problem;

7. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its sixty-fourth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 62/159

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[361]

62/159. Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the fundamental importance, including in response to terrorism and the fear of terrorism, of respecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law,

Reaffirming further that States are under the obligation to protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons,

Reiterating the important contribution of measures taken at all levels against terrorism, consistent with international law, in particular international human rights law and refugee and humanitarian law, to the functioning of democratic institutions and the maintenance of peace and security and thereby to the full enjoyment of human rights, as well as the need to continue this fight, including through international cooperation and the strengthening of the role of the United Nations in this respect,

Deeply deploring the occurrence of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of the fight against terrorism, as well as violations of international refugee law and international humanitarian law,

Recognizing that respect for all human rights, respect for democracy and respect for the rule of law are interrelated and mutually reinforcing,

Noting with concern measures that can undermine human rights and the rule of law, such as the detention of persons suspected of acts of terrorism in the absence of a legal basis for detention and due process guarantees, the deprivation of liberty that amounts to placing a detained person outside the protection of the law, the trial of suspects without fundamental judicial guarantees, the illegal deprivation of liberty and transfer of individuals suspected of terrorist activities, and the return of suspects to countries without individual assessment of the risk of there being substantial grounds for believing that they would be in danger of subjection to torture, and limitations to effective scrutiny of counter-terrorism measures,

Stressing that measures used in the fight against terrorism, including the profiling of individuals and the use of diplomatic assurances, memorandums of understanding and other transfer agreements or arrangements, must be in compliance with the obligations of States under international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law,

Reaffirming that acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States and destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, and that the international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism,[362]

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[360] A/HRC/4/102.

[361] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

Reaffirming its unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, regardless of their motivation, as criminal and unjustifiable, and renewing its commitment to strengthen international cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism,

Reaffirming that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Noting the declarations, statements and recommendations of a number of human rights treaty monitoring bodies and special procedures on the question of the compatibility of counter-terrorism measures with human rights obligations,

Acknowledging the adoption of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in its resolution 61/177 of 20 December 2006, and recognizing that the entry into force of the Convention, expected before the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, will be a significant event,

Emphasizing the importance of properly interpreting and implementing the obligations of States with respect to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and of abiding strictly by the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[363] in the fight against terrorism,

Recalling its resolutions 57/219 of 18 December 2002, 58/187 of 22 December 2003, 59/191 of 20 December 2004, 60/158 of 16 December 2005 and 61/171 of 19 December 2006, Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2003/68 of 25 April 2003,[364] 2004/87 of 21 April 2004[365] and 2005/80 of 21 April 2005,[366] and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, including Council decision 2/112 of 27 November 2006,[367]

Recalling also the establishment by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/80 of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism,

Recalling further its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993 and, inter alia, the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote and protect the effective enjoyment of all human rights,

Acknowledging the work of the Human Rights Council in promoting respect for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the fight against terrorism,

Bearing in mind the special procedures review process being undertaken by the Human Rights Council,

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,[368] and reaffirming its relevant clauses on measures to ensure respect for human rights for all, international humanitarian law and the rule of law as the fundamental basis for the fight against terrorism,

1. *Reaffirms* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

2. *Deplores* the suffering caused by terrorism to the victims and their families, expresses its profound solidarity with them, and stresses the need to consider providing them with assistance on a voluntary basis;

3. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States, in accordance with article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[369] to respect certain rights as non-derogable in any circumstances, recalls, in regard to all other Covenant rights, that any measures derogating from the provisions of the Covenant must be in accordance with that article in all cases, and underlines the exceptional and temporary nature of any such derogations;[370]

4. *Calls upon* States to raise awareness about the importance of these obligations among national authorities involved in combating terrorism;

5. *Reaffirms* that counter-terrorism measures should be implemented in full consideration of the human rights of persons belonging to minorities and must not be discriminatory on grounds such as race, colour, sex, language, religion or social origin;

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[362] See sect. I, para. 17, of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III).

[363] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[364] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[365] Ibid., *2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[366] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[367] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. I, sect. B.

[368] Resolution 60/288.

[369] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[370] See, for example, General Comment No. 29 on states of emergency adopted by the Human Rights Committee on 24 July 2001.

6. *Urges* States to fully respect non-refoulement obligations under international refugee and human rights law and, at the same time, to review, with full respect for these obligations and other legal safeguards, the validity of a refugee status decision in an individual case if credible and relevant evidence comes to light that indicates that the person in question has committed any criminal acts, including terrorist acts, falling under the exclusion clauses under international refugee law;

7. *Calls upon* States to refrain from returning persons, including in cases related to terrorism, to their countries of origin or to a third State whenever such transfer would be contrary to their obligations under international law, in particular human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law, including in cases where there are substantial grounds for believing that they would be in danger of subjection to torture, or where their life or freedom would be threatened in violation of international refugee law on account of their race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, bearing in mind obligations that States may have to prosecute individuals not returned;

8. *Also calls upon* States to ensure that guidelines and practices in all border control operations and other pre-entry mechanisms are clear and fully respect their obligations under international law, particularly refugee law and human rights law, towards persons seeking international protection;

9. *Urges* States, while countering terrorism, to ensure due process guarantees, consistent with all relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[371] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[372] in their respective fields of applicability;

10. *Opposes* any form of deprivation of liberty that amounts to placing a detained person outside the protection of the law, and urges States to respect the safeguards concerning the liberty, security and dignity of the person and to treat all prisoners in all places of detention in accordance with international law, including human rights law and international humanitarian law;

11. *Reaffirms* that it is imperative that all States work to uphold and protect the dignity of individuals and their fundamental freedoms, as well as democratic practices and the rule of law, while countering terrorism;

12. *Encourages* States, while countering terrorism, to take into account relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions on human rights, and encourages them to give due consideration to the recommendations of the special procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and the relevant comments and views of United Nations human rights treaty bodies;

13. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[373] and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism[374] submitted pursuant to resolution 61/171, and takes note of the recommendations and conclusions contained therein;

14. *Welcomes* the ongoing dialogue established in the context of the fight against terrorism between the Security Council and its Counter-Terrorism Committee and the relevant bodies for the promotion and protection of human rights, and encourages the Security Council and its Counter-Terrorism Committee to strengthen the links and to continue to develop cooperation with relevant human rights bodies, in particular with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism and other relevant special procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, giving due regard to the promotion and protection of human rights in the ongoing work pursuant to relevant Security Council resolutions relating to terrorism;

15. *Calls upon* States and other relevant actors, as appropriate, to continue to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[368] which, inter alia, reaffirms respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism;

16. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner and the Special Rapporteur to continue to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, including by raising awareness about the need to respect human rights while countering terrorism;

17. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the cooperation between the Special Rapporteur and all other relevant procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council as well as the United Nations human rights treaty bodies, and urges them to continue their cooperation, in accordance with their mandates, and to coordinate their efforts, where appropriate, in order to promote a consistent approach on this subject;

18. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the performance of the tasks and duties mandated, including by reacting promptly to the urgent appeals of the Special Rapporteur and providing the information requested, as well as to cooperate with other relevant procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council dealing with the

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[371] Resolution 217 A (III).

[372] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[373] A/62/298.

[374] See A/62/263.

promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism;

19. *Calls upon* States to give serious consideration to responding favourably to requests by the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries;

20. *Welcomes* the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to implement the mandate given to her in 2005, in resolution 60/158, and requests the High Commissioner to continue her efforts in this regard;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

22. *Decides* to consider at its sixty-third session the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism.

RESOLUTION 62/160

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[375]

62/160. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[376] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

Recalling its adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on 8 September 2000[377] and its resolution 61/168 of 19 December 2006, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/54 of 20 April 2005 on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,[378]

Recalling also the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, and its role in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

Recognizing also that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

Reaffirming that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field,

Emphasizing the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation,

Underlining the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, on the promotion of dialogue on human rights issues, by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,[379]

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Recognizes* that, in addition to their separate responsibilities to their individual societies, States have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level;

3. *Reaffirms* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, and welcomes in this regard the holding of conferences and meetings at the national, regional and international levels on dialogue among civilizations;

4. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

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[375] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[376] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[377] See resolution 55/2.

[378] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[379] See E/CN.4/2001/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46, chap. II, sect. A.

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the achievement of the objectives of the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

6. *Considers* that international cooperation in the field of human rights, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

8. *Calls upon* Member States, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

9. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on ways and means to enhance international cooperation and dialogue in the United Nations human rights machinery;

11. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/161

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173),[380] by a recorded vote of 136 to 53, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: None

62/161. The right to development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, which expresses, in particular, the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, as well as to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[381] as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[382] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[382]

Recalling also the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling further that the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations, and that the individual is the central subject and beneficiary of development,

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[380] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), El Salvador, Grenada and Philippines.

[381] Resolution 217 A (III).

[382] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Stressing that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[383] reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights, and the individual as the central subject and beneficiary of development,

Reaffirming the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000,[384]

Deeply concerned that the majority of indigenous peoples in the world live in conditions of poverty, and recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty and inequity on indigenous peoples by ensuring their full and effective inclusion in development and poverty eradication programmes,

Reaffirming the universality, indivisibility, interrelatedness, interdependence and mutually reinforcing nature of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development,

Expressing concern over the suspension of the trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization, and stressing the need for a successful outcome of the Doha Development Round in key areas such as agriculture, market access for non-agricultural products, trade facilitation, development and services,

Recalling the outcome of the eleventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in São Paulo, Brazil, from 13 to 18 June 2004, on the theme "Enhancing the coherence between national development strategies and global economic processes towards economic growth and development, particularly of developing countries",[385]

Recalling also all its previous resolutions, Human Rights Council resolution 4/4 of 30 March 2007,[386] previous resolutions of the Council and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to development, in particular Commission resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998,[387] on the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development as set out in the Declaration on the Right to Development,

Welcoming the outcome of the eighth session of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 26 February to 2 March 2007, as contained in the report of the Working Group,[388]

Recalling the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006, the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Putrajaya, Malaysia, on 29 and 30 May 2006, and the Fourteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 17 to 19 August 2004,

Reiterating its continuing support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development[389] as a development framework for Africa,

Recognizing that poverty is an affront to human dignity,

Recognizing also that extreme poverty and hunger are the greatest global threat that requires the collective commitment of the international community for its eradication, pursuant to millennium development goal 1, and therefore calling upon the international community, including the Human Rights Council, to contribute towards achieving that goal,

Recognizing further that historical injustices have undeniably contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparity, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries,

Stressing that poverty eradication is one of the critical elements in the promotion and realization of the right to development and that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels, especially in the context of the millennium development goal of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations adopted by consensus by the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council at its eighth session,[388] and calls for their immediate, full and effective implementation by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant actors;

2. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Working Group as renewed for a period of two years by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 4/4,[386] with the

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[383] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[384] See resolution 55/2.

[385] See TD/412.

[386] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[387] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[388] A/HRC/4/47.

[389] A/57/304, annex.

recognition that the Working Group will convene annual sessions of five working days and present its reports to the Council;

3. *Also supports* the realization of the mandate of the high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development, established within the framework of the Working Group, as renewed for a period of two years by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 4/4, with the further recognition that the task force will convene annual sessions of seven working days and present its reports to the Working Group;

4. *Emphasizes* the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 establishing the Human Rights Council, and in this regard calls upon the Council to implement the agreement:

(*a*) To promote and advance sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

(*b*) To agree on a programme of work that will lead to raising the right to development, as set out in paragraphs 5 and 10 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[383] to the same level and on a par with all other human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Notes with appreciation* that the high-level task force, at its second meeting, examined millennium development goal 8, on developing a global partnership for development, and suggested criteria for its periodic evaluation with the aim of improving the effectiveness of global partnership with regard to the realization of the right to development;[390]

6. *Stresses* the importance of endorsement of the road map outlined in paragraphs 52 to 54 of the report of the Working Group on its eighth session, which would ensure that the criteria for the periodic evaluation of global partnerships, as identified in millennium development goal 8, prepared by the high-level task force and being progressively developed and refined by the Working Group, are extended to other components of millennium development goal 8 no later than 2009;

7. *Also stresses* that the above criteria, as endorsed by the Working Group, should be used, as appropriate, in the elaboration of a comprehensive and coherent set of standards for the implementation of the right to development;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance that, upon completion of the above phases, the Working Group take appropriate steps for ensuring respect for and practical application of these standards, which could take various forms, including guidelines on the implementation of the right to development, and evolve into a basis for consideration of an international legal standard of a binding nature, through a collaborative process of engagement;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the core principles contained in the conclusions of the Working Group at its third session,[391] congruent with the purpose of international human rights instruments, such as equality, non-discrimination, accountability, participation and international cooperation, as critical to mainstreaming the right to development at the national and international levels, and underlines the importance of the principles of equity and transparency;

10. *Also stresses* that it is important that the high-level task force and the Working Group, in the discharge of their mandates, take into account the need:

(*a*) To promote the democratization of the system of international governance in order to increase the effective participation of developing countries in international decision-making;

(*b*) To also promote effective partnerships such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development[389] and other similar initiatives with the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, for the purpose of the realization of their right to development, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

(*c*) To strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level, while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as a fundamental human right, and also urging all States to expand and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development in the context of promoting effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development, bearing in mind that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level;

(*d*) To consider ways and means to continue to ensure the operationalization of the right to development as a priority, including through further consideration of the elaboration of a convention on the right to development;

(*e*) To mainstream the right to development in the policies and operational activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, programmes and funds, as well as in policies and strategies of the international financial and multilateral trading systems, taking into account in this regard that the core principles of the international economic, commercial and financial spheres, such as equity, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, participation and international cooperation, including effective partnerships for development, are indispensable in achieving the right to development and preventing discriminatory treatment arising out of political or other non-economic considerations, in addressing the issues of concern to the developing countries;

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[390] See E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/3.

[391] E/CN.4/2002/28/Rev.1, sect. VIII.A.

11. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to ensure that its Advisory Committee pursues the ongoing work of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on the right to development, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly and Commission on Human Rights resolutions, and in compliance with decisions to be taken by the Human Rights Council, and requests the Secretary-General to report on progress in this regard to the Assembly at its sixty-third session;

12. *Invites* Member States and all other stakeholders to participate actively in future sessions of the Social Forum, while recognizing the strong support extended to the Forum at its previous four sessions by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights;

13. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implement the goals and targets set out in all the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their review processes, in particular those relating to the realization of the right to development, recognizing that the realization of the right to development is critical to achieving the objectives, goals and targets set in those outcome documents;

14. *Also reaffirms* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

15. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of all human rights lies with the State, and reaffirms that States have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized;

16. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of States to create national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development, as well as their commitment to cooperate with each other to that end;

17. *Also reaffirms* the need for an international environment that is conducive to the realization of the right to development;

18. *Stresses* the need to strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international and national levels, and calls upon States to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as a fundamental human right;

19. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of identifying and analysing obstacles impeding the full realization of the right to development at both the national and the international levels;

20. *Affirms* that, while globalization offers both opportunities and challenges, the process of globalization remains deficient in achieving the objectives of integrating all countries into a globalized world, and stresses the need for policies and measures at the national and global levels to respond to the challenges and opportunities of globalization if this process is to be made fully inclusive and equitable;

21. *Recognizes* that, despite continuous efforts on the part of the international community, the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide, that developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

22. *Underlines* the fact that the international community is far from meeting the target set in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[384] of halving the number of people living in poverty by 2015, reaffirms the commitment made to meet that target, and emphasizes the principle of international cooperation, including partnership and commitment, between developed and developing countries towards achieving the goal;

23. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

24. *Recognizes* the need to address market access for developing countries, including in agriculture, services and non-agricultural products, in particular those of interest to developing countries;

25. *Calls for* the implementation of a desirable pace of meaningful trade liberalization, including in areas under negotiation; implementation of commitments on implementation-related issues and concerns; review of special and differential-treatment provisions, with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational; avoidance of new forms of protectionism; and capacity-building and technical assistance for developing countries as important issues in making progress towards the effective implementation of the right to development;

26. *Recognizes* the important link between the international economic, commercial and financial spheres and the realization of the right to development, stresses, in this

regard, the need for good governance and broadening the base of decision-making at the international level on issues of development concern and the need to fill organizational gaps, as well as strengthen the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions, and also stresses the need to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

27. *Also recognizes* that good governance and the rule of law at the national level assist all States in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, and agrees on the value of the ongoing efforts being made by States to identify and strengthen good governance practices, including transparent, responsible, accountable and participatory government, that are responsive and appropriate to their needs and aspirations, including in the context of agreed partnership approaches to development, capacity-building and technical assistance;

28. *Further recognizes* the important role and the rights of women and the application of a gender perspective as a cross-cutting issue in the process of realizing the right to development, and notes in particular the positive relationship between women's education and their equal participation in the civil, cultural, economic, political and social activities of the community and the promotion of the right to development;

29. *Stresses* the need for the integration of the rights of children, girls and boys alike, in all policies and programmes, and for ensuring the promotion and protection of those rights, especially in areas relating to health, education and the full development of their capacities;

30. *Welcomes* the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS adopted at the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on 2 June 2006,[392] stresses that further and additional measures must be taken at the national and international levels to fight HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases, taking into account ongoing efforts and programmes, and reiterates the need for international assistance in this regard;

31. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[393] on 13 December 2006, and notes that the Convention is open for signature;

32. *Emphasizes its commitment* to indigenous peoples in the process of realization of the right to development, and stresses the commitment to ensure their rights in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security recognized in international human rights obligations and highlighted in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007;

33. *Recognizes* the need for strong partnerships with civil society organizations and the private sector in pursuit of poverty eradication and development, as well as for corporate social responsibility;

34. *Emphasizes* the urgent need for taking concrete and effective measures to prevent, combat and criminalize all forms of corruption at all levels, to prevent, detect and deter in a more effective manner international transfers of illicitly acquired assets and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[394] particularly chapter V thereof, stresses the importance of a genuine political commitment on the part of all Governments through a firm legal framework, and in this context urges States to sign and ratify as soon as possible, and States parties to implement effectively, the Convention;

35. *Also emphasizes* the need to strengthen further the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and realization of the right to development, including ensuring effective use of the financial and human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide the Office of the High Commissioner with the necessary resources;

36. *Reaffirms* the request to the High Commissioner, in mainstreaming the right to development, to undertake effectively activities aimed at strengthening the global partnership for development between Member States, development agencies and the international development, financial and trade institutions, and to reflect those activities in detail in her next report to the Human Rights Council;

37. *Calls upon* the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies, to mainstream the right to development in their operational programmes and objectives, and stresses the need for the international financial and multilateral trading systems to mainstream the right to development in their policies and objectives;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs and bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, international development and financial institutions, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations;

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[392] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[393] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[394] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

39. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session and an interim report to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the present resolution, including efforts undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and realization of the right to development, and invites the Chairperson of the Working Group on the Right to Development to present a verbal update to the Assembly at its sixty-third session.

RESOLUTION 62/162

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173),[395] by a recorded vote of 132 to 54, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: None

62/162. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on this subject, the most recent of which was resolution 61/170 of 19 December 2006, Human Rights Council resolution 6/7 of 28 September 2007[396] and previous resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Reaffirming the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[397] submitted pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/21 of 23 April 1999,[398] and the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 52/120 of 12 December 1997[399] and 55/110 of 4 December 2000,[400]

Stressing that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States,

Recognizing the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and in this regard reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

Recalling the final document of the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,[401] in which they agreed to oppose and condemn those measures or laws and their continued application, persevere with efforts to effectively reverse them and urge other States to do likewise, as called for by the General Assembly and other United Nations organs, and to request States applying those measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately,

Recalling also that at the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, States were called upon to refrain from any unilateral coercive measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights, and also severely threatens the freedom of trade,[402]

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[395] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by China, and Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[396] See A/HRC/6/L.11. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53).

[397] A/62/255.

[398] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[399] A/53/293 and Add.1.

[400] A/56/207 and Add.1.

[401] A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

Bearing in mind all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[403] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[404] the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996,[405] and their five-year reviews,

Expressing its concern about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

Expressing its grave concern that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women and children, including adolescents,

Deeply concerned that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and recent major United Nations conferences, and contrary to general international law and the Charter, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented with all their negative implications for the social-humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

Bearing in mind all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

Reaffirming that unilateral coercive measures are a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[406]

Recalling article 1, paragraph 2, common to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[407] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[407] which provides, inter alia, that in no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence,

Noting the continuing efforts of the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, and reaffirming in particular its criteria, according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,

1. *Urges* all States to stop adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States, in particular those of a coercive nature with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[408] and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Also urges* all States not to adopt any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular children and women, that hinder their well-being and that create obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for his or her health and well-being and his or her right to food, medical care and the necessary social services, as well as to ensure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure;

3. *Strongly objects* to the extraterritorial nature of those measures which, in addition, threaten the sovereignty of States, and in this context calls upon all Member States to neither recognize those measures nor to apply them, as well as to take administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial applications or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

4. *Condemns* the continued unilateral application and enforcement by certain Powers of unilateral coercive measures, and rejects those measures with all their extraterritorial effects as being tools for political or economic pressure against any

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[402] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[403] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[404] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[405] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[406] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[407] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[408] Resolution 217 A (III).

country, in particular against developing countries, adopted with a view to preventing those countries from exercising their right to decide, of their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems, and because of the negative effects of those measures on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women and the elderly;

5. *Reaffirms* that essential goods such as food and medicines should not be used as tools for political coercion and that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development;

6. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to abide by the principles of international law, the Charter, the declarations of the United Nations and world conferences and relevant resolutions and to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are party by revoking such measures at the earliest possible time;

7. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

8. *Recalls* that, according to the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and the relevant principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX), in particular article 32 thereof, no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantages of any kind;

9. *Rejects* all attempts to introduce unilateral coercive measures, and urges the Human Rights Council to take fully into account the negative impact of those measures, including through the enactment of national laws and their extraterritorial application which are not in conformity with international law, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

10. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging her functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in her annual report to the General Assembly;

11. *Underlines* that unilateral coercive measures are one of the major obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[406] and in this regard calls upon all States to avoid the unilateral imposition of economic coercive measures and the extraterritorial application of domestic laws which run counter to the principles of free trade and hamper the development of developing countries, as recognized by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Right to Development;

12. *Recognizes* that in the Declaration of Principles adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[409] States were strongly urged to avoid and refrain from any unilateral measure in building the information society;

13. *Supports* the invitation of the Human Rights Council to all special rapporteurs and existing thematic mechanisms of the Council in the field of economic, social and cultural rights to pay due attention, within the scope of their respective mandates, to the negative impact and consequences of unilateral coercive measures;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, to continue to collect their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations and to submit an analytical report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, while reiterating once again the need to highlight the practical and preventive measures in this respect;

15. *Decides* to examine the question on a priority basis at its sixty-third session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 62/163

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173),[410] by a recorded vote of 126 to 54, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican

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[409] A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I, sect. A.

[410] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Chile, Mexico, Samoa, Singapore

62/163. Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/163 of 16 December 2005,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/56 of 20 April 2005 entitled "Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all",[411]

Recalling further its resolution 39/11 of 12 November 1984 entitled "Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace", and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[412]

Determined to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Underlining, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, its full and active support for the United Nations and for the enhancement of its role and effectiveness in strengthening international peace, security and justice and in promoting the solution of international problems, as well as the development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered,

Emphasizing its objective of promoting better relations among all States and contributing to setting up conditions in which their people can live in true and lasting peace, free from any threat to or attempt against their security,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its commitment to peace, security and justice and the continuing development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Rejecting the use of violence in pursuit of political aims, and stressing that only peaceful political solutions can ensure a stable and democratic future for all people around the world,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring respect for the principles of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter and international law,

Reaffirming also that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Reaffirming further the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[413]

Recognizing that peace and development are mutually reinforcing, including in the prevention of armed conflict,

Affirming that human rights include social, economic and cultural rights and the right to peace, a healthy environment and development, and that development is in fact the realization of those rights,

Underlining the fact that the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental rights, is contrary to the Charter and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and cooperation,

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[411] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[412] See resolution 55/2.

[413] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Recalling that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[414] can be fully realized,

Convinced of the aim of creating conditions of stability and well-being, which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Convinced also that life without war is the primary international prerequisite for the material well-being, development and progress of countries and for the full implementation of the rights and fundamental human freedoms proclaimed by the United Nations,

Convinced further that international cooperation in the field of human rights contributes to creating an international environment of peace and stability,

1. *Stresses* that peace is a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights for all;

2. *Also stresses* that the deep fault line that divides human society between the rich and the poor and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, peace and security and stability;

3. *Solemnly declares* that the peoples of our planet have a sacred right to peace and that the preservation and promotion of peace constitutes a fundamental obligation of each State;

4. *Emphasizes* that the preservation and promotion of peace demands that the policies of States be directed towards the elimination of the threat of war, particularly nuclear war, the renunciation of the use or threat of use of force in international relations and the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Affirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and an international system based on respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter and the promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development and the right of peoples to self-determination;

6. *Urges* all States to respect and to put into practice the purposes and principles of the Charter in their relations with other States, irrespective of their political, economic or social system and of their size, geographical location or level of economic development;

7. *Reaffirms* the duty of all States, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, to use peaceful means to settle any dispute to which they are parties and the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, as a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights of everyone and all peoples;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations with Member States, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations on how the Human Rights Council could work for the promotion of an international environment conducive to the full realization of the right of peoples to peace, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

9. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

10. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question of the promotion of the right of peoples to peace at its sixty-fourth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 62/164

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173),[415] by a recorded vote of 186 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina,

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[414] Resolution 217 A (III).

[415] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Democratic People's Republic of Korea

62/164. The right to food

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the issue of the right to food, in particular resolution 61/163 of 19 December 2006, and Human Rights Council resolution 6/2 of 27 September 2007,[416] as well as all resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights in this regard,

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[417] which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for her or his health and well-being, including food, the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition[418] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[419]

Recalling further the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[420] in which the fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger is recognized,

Bearing in mind the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action[421] and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, adopted in Rome on 13 June 2002,[422]

Reaffirming the concrete recommendations contained in the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[423]

Bearing in mind paragraph 6 of its resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that they must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Reaffirming also that a peaceful, stable and enabling political, social and economic environment, at both the national and the international levels, is the essential foundation that will enable States to give adequate priority to food security and poverty eradication,

Reiterating, as in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, that food should not be used as an instrument of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming in this regard the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations and that endanger food security,

Convinced that each State must adopt a strategy consistent with its resources and capacities to achieve its individual goals in implementing the recommendations contained in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action and, at the same time, cooperate regionally and internationally in order to organize collective solutions to global issues of food security in a world of increasingly interlinked institutions, societies and economies where coordinated efforts and shared responsibilities are essential,

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[416] See A/HRC/6/L.11. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53).

[417] Resolution 217 A (III).

[418] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[419] See resolution 55/2.

[420] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[421] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13–17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[422] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10–13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[423] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Session, Rome, 22–27 November 2004* (CL 127/REP), appendix D; see also E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

Recognizing that the problems of hunger and food insecurity have global dimensions and that there has been virtually no progress made on reducing hunger and that it could increase dramatically in some regions unless urgent, determined and concerted action is taken, given the anticipated increase in the world's population and the stress on natural resources,[424]

Noting that environmental degradation, desertification and global climate change are exacerbating destitution and desperation, causing a negative impact on the realization of the right to food, in particular in developing countries,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters, diseases and pests and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and livelihood and threatened agricultural production and food security, in particular in developing countries,

Stressing the importance of reversing the continuing decline of official development assistance devoted to agriculture, both in real terms and as a share of total official development assistance,

Welcoming the theme "The right to food", chosen by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to mark World Food Day on 16 October 2007,

Taking note of the final Declaration adopted at the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Porto Alegre, Brazil, on 10 March 2006,[425]

1. *Reaffirms* that hunger constitutes an outrage and a violation of human dignity and therefore requires the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels for its elimination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities;

3. *Considers it intolerable* that more than 6 million children still die every year from hunger-related illness before their fifth birthday, that there are about 854 million undernourished people in the world and that, while the prevalence of hunger has diminished, the absolute number of undernourished people has been increasing in recent years when, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the planet could produce enough food to feed 12 billion people, twice the world's present population;

4. *Expresses its concern* that women and girls are disproportionately affected by hunger, food insecurity and poverty, in part as a result of gender inequality and discrimination, that in many countries, girls are twice as likely as boys to die from malnutrition and preventable childhood diseases, and that it is estimated that almost twice as many women as men suffer from malnutrition;

5. *Encourages* all States to take action to address gender inequality and discrimination against women, in particular where it contributes to the malnutrition of women and girls, including measures to ensure the full and equal realization of the right to food and ensuring that women have equal access to resources, including income, land and water, to enable them to feed themselves and their families;

6. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food to continue mainstreaming a gender perspective in the fulfilment of his mandate, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and all other United Nations bodies and mechanisms addressing the right to food and food insecurity to integrate a gender perspective into their relevant policies, programmes and activities;

7. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure that programmes delivering safe and nutritious food are inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities;

8. *Encourages* all States to take steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the right to food, including steps to promote the conditions for everyone to be free from hunger and, as soon as possible, to enjoy fully the right to food, and to create and adopt national plans to combat hunger, and recognizes in this regard the great efforts and positive developments with respect to the right to food in some developing countries and regions, including those highlighted in the interim report of the Special Rapporteur;[426]

9. *Stresses* that improving access to productive resources and public investment in rural development is essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, including through the promotion of investments in appropriate, small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts;

10. *Recognizes* that 80 per cent of hungry people live in rural areas and 50 per cent are small-scale farm-holders, and that these people are especially vulnerable to food insecurity, given the increasing cost of inputs and the fall in farm incomes; that access to land, water, seeds and other natural resources is an increasing challenge for poor producers; and that support by States for small farmers, fishing communities and local

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[424] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2006* (Rome, 2006).

[425] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 7–10 March 2006* (C 2006/REP), appendix G.

[426] See A/62/289.

enterprises is an element key to food security and provision of the right to food;

11. *Stresses* the importance of fighting hunger in rural areas, including through national efforts supported by international partnerships to stop desertification and land degradation and through investments and public policies that are specifically appropriate to the risk of drylands, and in this regard calls for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[427]

12. *Stresses also* its commitments to promote and protect, without discrimination, the economic, social and cultural rights of indigenous peoples, in accordance with international human rights obligations and taking into account, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[428] acknowledges that many indigenous organizations and representatives of indigenous communities have expressed in different forums their deep concerns over the obstacles and challenges they face for the full enjoyment of the right to food, and calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples and the continuous discrimination against them;

13. *Requests* all States and private actors, as well as international organizations within their respective mandates, to take fully into account the need to promote the effective realization of the right to food for all, including in the ongoing negotiations in different fields;

14. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen national commitment as well as international assistance, upon request and in cooperation with affected countries, towards a better realization and protection of the right to food, and in particular to develop national protection mechanisms for people forced to leave their homes and land because of hunger or natural or man-made disasters affecting the enjoyment of the right to food;

15. *Stresses* the need to make efforts to mobilize and optimize the allocation and utilization of technical and financial resources from all sources, including external debt relief for developing countries, and to reinforce national actions to implement sustainable food security policies;

16. *Recognizes* the need for a successful conclusion of the Doha Development Round negotiations of the World Trade Organization as a contribution to creating international conditions that permit the realization of the right to food;

17. *Stresses* that all States should make all efforts to ensure that their international policies of a political and economic nature, including international trade agreements, do not have a negative impact on the right to food in other countries;

18. *Recalls* the importance of the New York Declaration on Action against Hunger and Poverty, and recommends the continuation of efforts aimed at identifying additional sources of financing for the fight against hunger and poverty;

19. *Recognizes* that the promises made at the World Food Summit in 1996 to halve the number of persons who are undernourished are not being fulfilled, and invites once again all international financial and development institutions, as well as the relevant United Nations agencies and funds, to give priority to and provide the necessary funding to realize the aim of halving by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, as well as the right to food as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security[421] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[419]

20. *Reaffirms* that integrating food and nutritional support, with the goal that all people at all times will have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, is part of a comprehensive response to the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other communicable diseases;

21. *Urges* States to give adequate priority in their development strategies and expenditures to the realization of the right to food;

22. *Stresses* the importance of international development cooperation and assistance, in particular in activities related to disaster risk reduction and in emergency situations such as natural and man-made disasters, diseases and pests, for the realization of the right to food and the achievement of sustainable food security, while recognizing that each country has the primary responsibility for ensuring the implementation of national programmes and strategies in this regard;

23. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to support national efforts aimed at responding rapidly to the food crises currently occurring across Africa, and expresses its deep concern that funding shortfalls are forcing the World Food Programme to cut operations across different regions, including Southern Africa;

24. *Invites* all relevant international organizations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to promote policies and projects that have a positive impact on the right to food, to ensure that partners respect the right to food in the implementation of common projects, to support strategies of Member States aimed at the fulfilment of the right to food and to avoid any actions that could have a negative impact on the realization of the right to food;

25. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food,[426] and expresses its appreciation

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[427] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[428] Resolution 61/295, annex.

for the work and commitment of the first mandate-holder to achieving the realization of the right to food;

26. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur as extended for a period of three years by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 6/2;[416]

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all the necessary human and financial resources for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur;

28. *Welcomes* the work already done by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting the right to adequate food, in particular its General Comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food (article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights),[429] in which the Committee affirmed, inter alia, that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights, and is also inseparable from social justice, requiring the adoption of appropriate economic, environmental and social policies, at both the national and the international levels, oriented to the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights for all;

29. *Recalls* General Comment No. 15 (2002) of the Committee on the right to water (articles 11 and 12 of the Covenant),[430] in which the Committee noted, inter alia, the importance of ensuring sustainable water resources for human consumption and agriculture in realization of the right to adequate food;

30. *Reaffirms* that the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[423] represent a practical tool to promote the realization of the right to food for all, contribute to the achievement of food security and thus provide an additional instrument in the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

31. *Welcomes* the continued cooperation of the High Commissioner, the Committee and the Special Rapporteur, and encourages them to continue their cooperation in this regard;

32. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries to enable him to fulfil his mandate more effectively;

33. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue his work, including by examining the emerging issues with regard to the realization of the right to food within his existing mandate;

34. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies and civil society actors, including non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate, inter alia, through the submission of comments and suggestions on ways and means of realizing the right to food;

35. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its sixty-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 62/165

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[431]

62/165. Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

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[429] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and Corr.1), annex V.

[430] Ibid., *2003, Supplement No. 2* (E/2003/22), annex IV.

[431] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Desirous of achieving further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[432] the International Covenants on Human Rights[433] and other relevant instruments,

Deeply convinced that United Nations action in the field of human rights should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

Recalling its previous resolutions in this regard,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[434]

Affirming the importance of the objectivity, independence and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and on countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[432] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[433] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[433] and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as a legitimate concern of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to take duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

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[432] Resolution 217 A (III).

[433] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[434] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

to present further practical proposals and ideas that would contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and to submit a comprehensive report on the question to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

12. *Decides* to consider the matter at its sixty-fourth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 62/166

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173),[435] by a recorded vote of 120 to 55, with 10 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Kazakhstan, Nauru, Peru, Singapore, Thailand, Tonga, Uruguay

62/166. Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of a humanitarian character

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in accordance with Article 56 of the Charter of the United Nations, all Member States have pledged themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55, including universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling also the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Reaffirming that the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms must be considered a priority objective of the United Nations in accordance with its purposes and principles, in particular the purpose of international cooperation, and that, within the framework of these purposes and principles, the promotion and protection of all human rights is a legitimate concern of the international community,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples to an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Recognizing that the international community should devise ways and means to remove current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world, and should continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights,

Reaffirming that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations and that human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings, the promotion and protection of such rights and freedoms being the first responsibility of Governments,

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[435] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Suriname, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Reaffirming also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Reaffirming further the various Articles of the Charter setting out the respective powers and functions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, as the paramount framework for the achievement of the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations under other important instruments of international law, in particular those of international human rights law and international humanitarian law,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with Article 103 of the Charter, in the event of a conflict between the obligations of the Members of the United Nations under the Charter and their obligations under any other international agreement, their obligations under the Charter shall prevail,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 59/204 of 20 December 2004,

1. *Reiterates* the solemn commitment of all States to enhance international cooperation in the field of human rights and in the solution to international problems of a humanitarian character in full compliance with the Charter of the United Nations, inter alia, by the strict observance of all the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 thereof;

2. *Stresses* the vital role of the work of the United Nations and regional arrangements, acting consistently with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter, in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as in solving international problems of a humanitarian character, and affirms that all States, in these activities, must fully comply with the principles set forth in Article 2 of the Charter, in particular respecting the sovereign equality of all States and refraining from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations shall promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion;

4. *Also reaffirms* that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, the promotion and protection of human rights and threats to international peace and security must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to refrain from enacting or enforcing unilateral coercive measures as tools of political, military or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, which would prevent those countries from exercising their right to decide of their own free will their own political, economic and social systems;

6. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate fully, through constructive dialogue, to ensure the promotion and protection of all human rights for all and in promoting peaceful solutions to international problems of a humanitarian character and, in their actions towards that purpose, to comply strictly with the principles and norms of international law, inter alia, by fully respecting international human rights law and international humanitarian law;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, organs, bodies and other components of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and to disseminate it as widely as possible;

8. *Decides* to consider the question at its sixty-fourth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 62/167

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.3, para. 49),[436] by a recorded vote of 101 to 22, with 59 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United

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[436] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Against: Algeria, Belarus, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Oman, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Jamaica, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zambia

62/167. Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that States Members of the United Nations have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments,

Mindful that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[437] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[437] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[438] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[439]

Noting the submission by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of its second periodic report concerning the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[440] its second periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[441] and its initial report on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[442] as a sign of engagement in international cooperative efforts in the field of human rights,

Taking note of the concluding observations of the treaty monitoring bodies under the four treaties, the most recent of which were given by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in July 2005,[443]

Noting with appreciation the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization in order to improve the health situation in the country, and the collaboration established with the United Nations Children's Fund in order to improve the quality of education for children,

Recalling its resolutions 60/173 of 16 December 2005 and 61/174 of 19 December 2006, Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2003/10 of 16 April 2003,[444] 2004/13 of 15 April 2004[445] and 2005/11 of 14 April 2005,[446] and Human Rights Council decision 1/102 of 30 June 2006,[447] and mindful of the need for the international community to strengthen its coordinated efforts aimed at achieving the implementation of those resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea[448] and of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted in accordance with resolution 61/174,[449]

Welcoming the inter-Korean summit held from 2 to 4 October 2007 and the Declaration on the Advancement of North-South Korean Relations, Peace and Prosperity adopted on 4 October 2007 by the two leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea, as well as the recent progress achieved in the six-party talks, and encouraging the improvement of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including through effective follow-up,

1. *Expresses its very serious concern* at:

(*a*) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to recognize the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or to extend cooperation to him;

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[437] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[438] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[439] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[440] E/1990/6/Add.35.

[441] CRC/C/65/Add.24.

[442] CEDAW/C/PRK/1.

[443] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/60/38), part two, paras. 26–76.

[444] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[445] Ibid., *2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[446] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[447] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/61/53), chap. II, sect. B.

[448] See A/62/264.

[449] A/62/318.

(*b*) The persistence of continuing reports of systematic, widespread and grave violations of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including:

(i) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including inhuman conditions of detention, public executions, extrajudicial and arbitrary detention; the absence of due process and the rule of law, including fair trial guarantees and an independent judiciary; the imposition of the death penalty for political and religious reasons; and the existence of a large number of prison camps and the extensive use of forced labour;

(ii) The situation of refugees and asylum-seekers expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and sanctions imposed on citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have been repatriated from abroad, leading to punishments of internment, torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or the death penalty, and in this regard urges all States to ensure respect for the fundamental principle of non-refoulement and to treat those who seek refuge humanely;

(iii) All-pervasive and severe restrictions on the freedoms of thought, conscience, religion, opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association, and on equal access to information, by such means as the persecution of individuals exercising their freedom of opinion and expression, and their families;

(iv) Limitations imposed on every person who wishes to move freely within the country and travel abroad, including the punishment of those who leave or try to leave the country without permission, or their families;

(v) The violations of economic, social and cultural rights, which have led to severe malnutrition, widespread health problems and other hardship for the population in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, inter alia, women, children and the elderly;

(vi) Continuing violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women, in particular the trafficking of women for the purpose of prostitution or forced marriage and the subjection of women to human smuggling, forced abortions, gender-based discrimination and violence;

(vii) Continuing reports of violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, especially on the use of collective camps and of coercive measures that target the rights of persons with disabilities to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children;

(viii) Violations of workers' rights, including the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining, the right to strike as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[437] and the prohibition of the economic exploitation of children and of any harmful or hazardous work of children as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[438]

2. *Reiterates its very serious concern* at unresolved questions of international concern relating to the abduction of foreigners in the form of enforced disappearance, which violates the human rights of the nationals of other sovereign countries, and in this regard strongly calls upon the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea urgently to resolve these questions, including through existing channels, in a transparent manner, including by ensuring the immediate return of abductees;

3. *Notes* the prompt reaction of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the latest floods and the openness shown in seeking outside assistance, and expresses its very deep concern at the precarious humanitarian situation in the country, compounded by the misallocation of resources away from the satisfaction of basic needs and by frequent natural disasters, in particular the prevalence of maternal malnutrition and of infant malnutrition, which, despite recent progress, continues to affect the physical and mental development of a significant proportion of children, and urges the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in this regard, to take preventive and remedial action, to facilitate access to humanitarian aid and measures to allow humanitarian agencies to secure its impartial delivery to all parts of the country on the basis of need in accordance with humanitarian principles, and to ensure food security, including through sustainable agriculture;

4. *Strongly urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, in this regard:

(*a*) To immediately put an end to the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights mentioned above, inter alia, by implementing fully the measures set out in the above-mentioned resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and the recommendations addressed to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the United Nations special procedures and treaty bodies;

(*b*) To tackle the root causes leading to refugee outflows and criminalize those who exploit refugees by human smuggling, trafficking and extortion, while not criminalizing the victims;

(*c*) To extend its full cooperation to the Special Rapporteur, including by granting him full, free and unimpeded access to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to other United Nations human rights mechanisms;

(*d*) To engage in technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her Office, as pursued by the High Commissioner in recent years, with a view to improving the situation of human rights in the country;

(*e*) To extend to United Nations agencies and other humanitarian actors all access necessary to allow them to carry out their mandates;

5. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at its sixty-third session, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Special Rapporteur to continue to report his findings and recommendations.

RESOLUTION 62/168

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.3, para. 49),[450] by a recorded vote of 73 to 53, with 55 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia

62/168. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[451] the International Covenants on Human Rights[452] and other international human rights instruments,

Mindful that the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[452] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[452] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[453] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[454]

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution 61/176 of 19 December 2006,

Regretting that no special procedure has been permitted to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran since July 2005, despite the standing invitation extended by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to all human rights thematic monitoring mechanisms in April 2002,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the ongoing systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of the people of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as described in the above-mentioned resolutions, and at the failure of the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement the steps called for in those resolutions;

2. *Expresses its very serious concern* that, since the adoption of resolution 61/176, there have been, inter alia, confirmed instances of:

(*a*) Torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including flogging and amputations;

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[450] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[451] Resolution 217 A (III).

[452] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[453] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[454] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

(*b*) Public executions, including multiple public executions, and other executions carried out in the absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards;

(*c*) Stoning as a method of execution, and the continued issuing of sentences of execution by stoning;

(*d*) Execution of persons who were under the age of 18 at the time their offence was committed, contrary to the obligations of the Islamic Republic of Iran under article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[454] and article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[452]

(*e*) Arrests, violent repression and sentencing of women exercising their right to peaceful assembly, a campaign of intimidation against women's human rights defenders, and continuing discrimination against women and girls in law and in practice;

(*f*) Increasing discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, recognized or otherwise, including, inter alia, Arabs, Azeris, Baluchis, Kurds, Christians, Jews, Sufis and Sunni Muslims and their defenders, and, in particular, attacks on Baha'is and their faith in State-sponsored media, increasing evidence of efforts by the State to identify and monitor Baha'is, preventing members of the Baha'i faith from attending university and from sustaining themselves economically, and an increase in cases of arbitrary arrest and detention;

(*g*) Ongoing, systemic and serious restrictions of freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, including those imposed on the media and trade unions, and increasing harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents and human rights defenders from all sectors of Iranian society, including arrests and violent repression of labour leaders, labour members peacefully assembling and students;

(*h*) Persistent failure to uphold due process of law rights, and violation of the rights of detainees, including the systematic and arbitrary use of prolonged solitary confinement;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect fully its human rights obligations and in this regard to implement fully the above-mentioned resolutions, and in particular:

(*a*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, amputations, flogging and other forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*b*) To abolish, in law and in practice, public executions and other executions carried out in the absence of respect for internationally recognized safeguards;

(*c*) To abolish, in law and in practice, the use of stoning as a method of execution;

(*d*) To abolish, as called for by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in its report of January 2005,[455] executions of persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18;

(*e*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls;

(*f*) To eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, recognized or otherwise, to refrain from monitoring individuals on the basis of their religious beliefs, and to ensure that access of minorities to education and employment is on par with that of all Iranians;

(*g*) To implement, inter alia, the 1996 report of the Special Rapporteur on religious intolerance,[456] which recommended ways in which the Islamic Republic of Iran could emancipate the Baha'i community;

(*h*) To end the harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents and human rights defenders, including by releasing persons imprisoned arbitrarily or on the basis of their political views;

(*i*) To uphold due process of law rights and to end impunity for human rights violations;

4. *Encourages* the thematic special procedures of the Human Rights Council to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran and otherwise continue their work to improve the situation of human rights in the country, and urges the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to live up to the commitment it made when it issued a standing invitation to special procedures by cooperating with them, and to illustrate how their subsequent recommendations are being addressed;

5. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its sixty-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights", and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at that session a comprehensive report on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

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[455] See CRC/C/146.

[456] See E/CN.4/1996/95/Add.2.

RESOLUTION 62/169

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.3, para. 49),[457] by a recorded vote of 72 to 33, with 78 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Against: Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia

62/169. Situation of human rights in Belarus

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[458] the International Covenants on Human Rights[459] and other applicable human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil their international obligations,

Mindful that Belarus is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[459] and the first Optional Protocol thereto,[459] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[459] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[460] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[461] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[462] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[463] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[464] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[465]

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2003/14 of 17 April 2003,[466] 2004/14 of 15 April 2004[467] and 2005/13 of 14 April 2005,[468] Human Rights Council decision 1/102 of 30 June 2006,[469] and its resolution 61/175 of 19 December 2006,

Concerned that the presidential election of 19 March 2006 was severely flawed due to arbitrary use of State power and fell significantly short of Belarus' commitments at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to hold a free and fair election, that the Government of Belarus did not take measures to ensure that the local elections of 14 January 2007 met international standards and that the situation of human rights in Belarus in 2007 continued to significantly deteriorate, as documented in the reports of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus,[470] which found that systematic violations of human rights continue to take place in Belarus,

Disappointed that the Belarusian authorities again failed to create conditions for the Belarusian people to freely express their will during local elections on 14 January 2007 by denying the basic rights of freedom of assembly and association, as well as with the lack of progress made by the Government of Belarus in addressing noted shortfalls,

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[457] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[458] Resolution 217 A (III).

[459] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[460] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[461] Ibid., vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[462] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[463] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[464] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[465] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[466] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[467] Ibid., *2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[468] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[469] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/61/53), part one, chap. II, sect. B.

[470] A/HRC/4/16.

1. *Expresses deep concern:*

(*a*) About the continued use of the criminal justice system to silence political opposition and human rights defenders, including through arbitrary detention, lack of due process and closed political trials of leading opposition figures and human rights defenders;

(*b*) About the failure of the Government of Belarus to cooperate fully with all the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, in particular with the Special Rapporteurs on the situation of human rights in Belarus, while noting the serious concern relating to the continued and systematic violations of human rights in Belarus and the further erosion of the democratic process expressed by seven independent human rights experts of the United Nations in a statement issued on 29 March 2006;

(*c*) That in spite of detailed recommendations by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and dialogue between the Government of Belarus and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe following previous elections, and despite calls from the General Assembly to adopt the recommendations of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe following the flawed presidential election of 2006, Belarus again failed to meet its commitments to hold free and fair elections during municipal elections in January 2007, including by using intimidation and the arbitrary application of registration standards to exclude opposition candidates, by severely restricting the access of registered candidates to voters and the mass media, through routine harassment, the detention and arrest of political and civil society activists, and the negative portrayal in the State media of opposition candidates and activists, including human rights defenders, and by preventing access by independent local observers to polling stations;

(*d*) About the continued use of the arbitrary application of registration standards to prevent non-governmental organizations from operating, including the use of the arbitrary denial of leases and evictions to prevent organizations from acquiring valid addresses;

(*e*) About the continued harassment and detention of Belarusian journalists and the suspension and banning of independent media covering local opposition demonstrations, that senior officials of the Government of Belarus were implicated in the enforced disappearance and/or summary execution of three political opponents of the incumbent authorities in 1999 and of a journalist in 2000 and in the continuing investigatory cover-up, as documented in the report adopted in resolution 1371 (2004) of 28 April 2004 by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe,[471] and that the Government of Belarus has ignored calls of that body to account for their disappearance;

(*f*) About the failure of the Belarusian authorities to heed calls to reinstate the teaching licence of the European Humanities University in Minsk and about the increasing harassment of its students while the university operates in exile;

(*g*) About continued persistent reports of harassment and closure of non-governmental organizations, national minority organizations, independent media outlets, religious groups, opposition political parties, independent trade unions, and independent youth and student organizations, and the harassment and prosecution of individuals, including students and their relatives, engaged in the promotion and protection of human rights, the rule of law and democracy, especially those students returning to Belarus;

2. *Urges* the Government of Belarus:

(*a*) To release immediately and unconditionally all individuals detained for politically motivated reasons and other individuals detained for exercising or promoting human rights;

(*b*) To cease politically motivated prosecution, harassment and intimidation of political opponents, pro-democracy activists and human rights defenders, independent media, national minority activists, religious organizations, educational institutions and civil society actors, and to cease the harassment of students and create the conditions whereby they can continue their studies in Belarus;

(*c*) To bring the electoral process and legislative framework into line with international standards, especially those of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, to demonstrate such commitment through the parliamentary elections due in 2008 and to rectify the shortcomings of the electoral process, identified by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in its report of 7 June 2006, including election laws and practices that restrict campaigning opportunities for de facto opposition candidates, the arbitrary application of electoral laws, including with regard to the registration of candidates, obstruction of the right of access to the media, biased presentation of the issues by the State media and the falsification of vote counts;

(*d*) To respect the rights to freedom of speech, assembly and association;

(*e*) To suspend from their duties officials implicated in any case of enforced disappearance, summary execution and torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, pending investigation of those cases, and to ensure that all necessary measures are taken to investigate fully and impartially such cases and to bring the alleged perpetrators to justice before an independent tribunal, and, if found guilty, to ensure that they are punished in accordance with the international human rights obligations of Belarus;

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[471] See Council of Europe, Parliamentary Assembly, document 10062.

(*f*) To uphold the right to freedom of religion or belief, including the ability to maintain communications with individuals and communities in matters of religion and belief at the national and international levels;

(*g*) To investigate and hold accountable those responsible for the mistreatment, arbitrary arrest and incarceration of human rights defenders and members of the political opposition;

(*h*) To carry out the recommendations of the International Labour Organization Commission with regard to respecting core labour rights of freedom of association for workers;

(*i*) To carry out all other steps called for by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/13,[468] as well as General Assembly resolution 61/175;

3. *Insists* that the Government of Belarus cooperate fully with the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, as well as with all mechanisms of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

RESOLUTION 62/170

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.5, para. 10)[472]

62/170. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 61/106 of 13 December 2006, as well as relevant resolutions of the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on Human Rights,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[473] and the Optional Protocol thereto[474] on 13 December 2006, and expresses the hope that they will enter into force at an early date;

2. *Also welcomes* the fact that since the opening for signature of the Convention and the Optional Protocol on 30 March 2007, one hundred and nineteen States have already signed and fourteen States have ratified the Convention and sixty-seven States have signed and three States have ratified the Optional Protocol, and calls upon those States which have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention and the Optional Protocol as a matter of priority;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to assist States to become parties to the Convention and the Optional Protocol, including by providing assistance with a view to achieving universal adherence;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the staff and facilities necessary to support the effective performance of the functions of the Conference of States Parties and also to foresee all the necessary requirements for the installation and functioning of the Committee established under the Convention and the Optional Protocol after the entry into force of the Convention, as well as for the dissemination of information on the Convention and the Optional Protocol;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue the progressive implementation of standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services of the United Nations system, taking into account relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular when undertaking renovations;

6. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue undertaking efforts to disseminate accessible information on the Convention and the Optional Protocol, to promote their understanding, to prepare for their entry into force and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under these instruments;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the status of the Convention and the Optional Protocol and the implementation of the present resolution.

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[472] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[473] Resolution 61/106, annex I.

[474] Ibid., annex II.

RESOLUTION 62/171

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.6, para. 8)[475]

62/171. International Year of Human Rights Learning

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations include promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Reaffirming the central importance of human rights education in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[476] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[477]

Recalling its resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, in which it decided that the Human Rights Council should, inter alia, promote human rights education and learning as well as advisory services, technical assistance and capacity-building,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in which Heads of State and Government expressed their support for the promotion of human rights education and learning at all levels, including through the implementation of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, as appropriate, and encouraged all States to develop initiatives in that regard,[478]

Noting the complementarities between the World Programme for Human Rights Education and the International Year of Human Rights Learning,

Acknowledging the important role played by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in promoting and coordinating the Education for All programmes,

Welcoming the adoption by the Human Rights Council on 28 September 2007 of resolution 6/9 entitled "Development of public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights", resolution 6/10 entitled "United Nations declaration on human rights education and training", and resolution 6/24 entitled "World Programme for Human Rights Education",[479]

Acknowledging that non-governmental organizations play an important role at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and protection of human rights through education and learning,

Considering that the sixtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 2008 is a suitable occasion for the United Nations to increase its efforts to promote a human rights culture worldwide through education and learning,

Convinced that every woman, man and child, in order to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced also that human rights learning should contribute to the fulfilment of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a way of life for people everywhere,

1. *Decides* that the year commencing on 10 December 2008 shall be proclaimed the International Year of Human Rights Learning, to be devoted to activities undertaken to broaden and deepen human rights learning on the basis of the principles of universality, indivisibility, interdependency, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, constructive dialogue and cooperation, with a view to enhancing the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, bearing in mind the duty of the State, regardless of the political, economic and cultural system, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify their efforts, throughout the Year and beyond, to promote human rights learning and education at the local, national and international levels, and encourages cooperation at all levels and with all relevant stakeholders to this end;

3. *Invites* the Human Rights Council and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to develop with Member States, in cooperation with civil society organizations and appropriate specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, activities suitable for promoting human rights learning, as appropriate, at all levels of society;

4. *Decides* to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[476] at a plenary meeting to be held on 10 December 2008, and encourages the participation of Member States at the highest level possible;

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[475] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Barbados, Belize, Benin (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Panama, Qatar, Slovenia, Suriname, Thailand and Turkey.

[476] See resolution 217 A (III).

[477] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, paras. 78–82.

[478] See resolution 60/1, para. 131.

[479] See A/HRC/6/L.11. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53).

5. *Also decides* to devote a special meeting at the end of the Year, during its sixty-fourth session, to reviewing activities undertaken by Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and civil society during the Year, and further decides to determine the format of the meeting at a later date;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/172

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/440, para. 24)[480]

62/172. Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism

The General Assembly,

Recalling all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to technical assistance in countering terrorism,

Stressing the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation to prevent and suppress effectively terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, whenever and for whatever purposes, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of Member States through the provision of technical assistance,

Reaffirming all aspects of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2006,

Acknowledging that, in the Strategy, Member States resolved to implement all relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to terrorism,

Stressing the importance of the institutionalization of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force within the Secretariat in order to ensure overall coordination and coherence of the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system, with the aim of providing technical assistance to Member States,

Mindful that, in the Strategy, Member States encouraged the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including its Terrorism Prevention Branch, to enhance, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, its provision of technical assistance to States, upon request, to facilitate the implementation of the international conventions and protocols related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions,

Bearing in mind that, in the Strategy, Member States encouraged the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to enhance cooperation with States to help them to comply fully with international norms and obligations to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism,

Bearing in mind also that, in the Strategy, Member States encouraged relevant regional and subregional organizations to create or strengthen counter-terrorism mechanisms or centres and encouraged, where consistent with its existing mandate, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, to facilitate the provision of cooperation and assistance to that end,

Recalling its resolution 61/181 of 20 December 2006, in which it invited all States to increase their support to the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund or through voluntary contributions in direct support of such activities,

Recalling also that the Security Council, in its resolution 1535 (2004) of 26 March 2004, recognized that visits by the Counter-Terrorism Committee to States, with the consent of the State concerned, to monitor the implementation of Council resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 should be conducted, when appropriate, in close cooperation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and other United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular with its Terrorism Prevention Branch, taking special care of the assistance that might be available to address States' needs,

Expressing its appreciation for the efforts recently undertaken by the Terrorism Prevention Branch to maximize the efficiency of its technical assistance by providing it in the official languages of the United Nations,

Noting with appreciation initiatives to facilitate the implementation of the Strategy, such as the Symposium on Advancing the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, held in Vienna on 17 and 18 May 2007 and organized by the Government of Austria, in cooperation with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including its Terrorism Prevention Branch, for providing, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, technical assistance to States, upon request, to facilitate the implementation of the

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[480] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

international conventions and protocols related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions, and requests the Office, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to continue its efforts in that regard;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties without delay to the existing international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide legislative assistance to Member States, upon request, and to facilitate the implementation of those instruments;

3. *Urges* Member States to strengthen international cooperation, to the greatest extent possible, in order to prevent and suppress terrorism, including, when necessary, by entering into bilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, within the framework of the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism and relevant United Nations resolutions, and in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, and to ensure adequate training of all relevant personnel in executing international cooperation; and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide assistance to Member States, upon request, to that end;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to intensify its efforts to provide Member States with technical assistance, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and suppressing terrorism by facilitating the implementation of the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in particular by training criminal justice officials on the implementation of those international instruments, for instance through specialized training sessions and specialized technical tools and publications, in close coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of the development and maintenance of fair and effective criminal justice systems, including the humane treatment of all those in pretrial and correctional facilities, in accordance with applicable international law as a fundamental basis of any strategy to counter terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, whenever appropriate, to take into account in its technical assistance programme to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, to continue to work with international organizations and relevant entities of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and subregional organizations, in the delivery of technical assistance, whenever appropriate and within its mandate, specifically to enhance legal cooperation, good practices and legal training in the area of counter-terrorism;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Member States that have supported the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through financial contributions, and invites all Member States to consider making additional voluntary financial contributions, as well as providing in-kind support, especially in view of the need for enhanced and effective delivery of technical assistance to assist Member States with the implementation of relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;[481]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with sufficient resources for its activities, including in the area of counter-terrorism, within its mandate, for assisting Member States in the implementation of the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;[482]

9. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report on expenditure for terrorism prevention activities, in the context of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2008–2009 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its reconvened eighteenth session;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a written report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/173

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/440, para. 24)[483]

62/173. Follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

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[481] Resolution 60/288.

[482] See Economic and Social Council resolutions 2007/12 and 2007/19.

[483] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling its resolution 56/201 of 21 December 2001, on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/3 of 11 July 2003, on the progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 56/201, in which the Council recommended that all organizations of the United Nations development system should consider lessons learned and their dissemination as a specific required component of their activities, emphasized the importance of evaluation of operational activities of the United Nations system in order to enhance their effectiveness and impact, and called upon the Secretary-General to integrate into future reports a stronger focus on lessons learned, results and outcome,

Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, in which it emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments to stay fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling further its resolution 60/177 of 16 December 2005, in which it endorsed the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, adopted at the high-level segment of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and approved by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session and subsequently by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2005/15 of 22 July 2005,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/26 of 27 July 2006, in which the Council requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene an intergovernmental group of experts to discuss the Eleventh Congress and previous congresses in order to accumulate and consider lessons learned from prior congresses with a view to developing a methodology for capturing lessons learned for future congresses, and to submit a report on its work to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its sixteenth session for its consideration, and welcomed the offer of the Government of Thailand to act as host to the intergovernmental group of experts,

Recalling also its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders,

Considering that, pursuant to its resolutions 415 (V) and 46/152 of 18 December 1991, the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is to be held in 2010,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its meeting held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006,[484] and endorses the conclusions and recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts;[485]

2. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to implement the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice[486] and the recommendations adopted by the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice [487] in formulating legislation and policy directives, where appropriate;

3. *Encourages* Member States to consider utilizing the reporting checklist developed by the Government of Thailand on implementation of the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses, as a useful self-assessment tool in their reporting on the follow-up to the Eleventh Congress;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of regional preparatory meetings, including meetings of the least developed countries, for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth Congress, for consideration and approval by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites Member States to be actively involved in that process;

6. *Accepts with gratitude* the offer of the Government of Brazil to act as host to the Twelfth Congress, and requests the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with the Government and to report on them to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventeenth session;

7. *Decides* that the duration of the Twelfth Congress should not exceed eight days, including pre-Congress consultations;

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[484] E/CN.15/2007/6.

[485] Ibid., chap. IV, paras. 35–47.

[486] Resolution 60/177, annex.

[487] See *Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Bangkok, 18–25 April 2005: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.IV.7).

8. *Invites* Member States to be represented at the Twelfth Congress at the highest possible level, for example by Heads of State or Government, Government ministers or attorneys general, to make statements on the theme and topics of the Twelfth Congress and to participate in interactive round tables;

9. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations programmes, specialized agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Twelfth Congress;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the necessary resources, from within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009, for the preparations for the Twelfth Congress and to ensure that adequate resources are provided in the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011 to support the holding of the Congress;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in the regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth Congress and in the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice;

12. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its seventeenth session, to finalize the programme for the Twelfth Congress and to make its final recommendations on the theme and on the organization of round tables and workshops to be held by panels of experts, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventeenth session.

RESOLUTION 62/174

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/440, para. 24)[488]

62/174. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/182 of 20 December 2006 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[489]

Bearing in mind the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Bearing in mind also the Programme of Action, 2006–2010, endorsed by the Round Table for Africa, held in Abuja on 5 and 6 September 2005,[490]

Aware of the devastating impact of crime on the national economies of African States and of the fact that crime is a major obstacle to harmonious and sustainable development in Africa,

Noting that the financial situation of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Also commends* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in strengthening its working relationship with the Institute by supporting and involving the Institute in the implementation of a number of activities, including those contained in the Programme of Action, 2006–2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa;[490]

3. *Further commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

4. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

5. *Notes* a significant increase in the levels of payment of member States' financial contributions to the Institute;

6. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to continue to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

7. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue adopting concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and to implement its

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[488] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Barbados, Belarus, Benin (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Lebanon, Nicaragua and Panama.

[489] A/62/127.

[490] Available from www.unodc.org/art/en/ppaa.html.

programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

8. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[491]

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue making concrete proposals, including for the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/175

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/440, para. 24)[492]

62/175. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, and its resolution 61/181 of 20 December 2006 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Recalling also its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005 on the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in particular the sections on transnational crime and terrorism,

Taking note with appreciation of the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[493] which aims, inter alia, to enhance its effectiveness and flexibility in providing technical assistance and policy services,

Recalling section XI of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body", where the Commission, as the principal United Nations policymaking body on crime prevention and criminal justice issues, was given the authority to approve the budget of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, and looking forward to the outcome of the reconvened sixteenth session of the Commission, to be held on 29 and 30 November 2007,

Recalling also its resolution 61/209 of 20 December 2006, entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption",

Reaffirming its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[494] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[495] and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism, including those recently entered into force,

Reaffirming also the commitments undertaken by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,[496]

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[491] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[492] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

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[493] See Economic and Social Council resolutions 2007/12 and 2007/19.

[494] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[495] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[496] Resolution 60/288.

Recalling its resolution 61/180 of 20 December 2006, on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and the coordinating role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this respect,

Welcoming the joint launch of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Labour Office, the International Organization for Migration, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as the planned Vienna Forum, to be held from 13 to 15 February 2008, which aims to raise awareness and foster international cooperation and global partnerships to effectively address trafficking in persons, in accordance with decision 16/1 of 27 April 2007 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[497]

Taking into consideration all relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 2007/20, 2007/21, 2007/22, 2007/23 and 2007/24 of 26 July 2007, and all those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance, in particular in Africa,

Emphasizing that its resolution 61/143 of 19 December 2006 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women has considerable implications for the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and its activities,

Recalling the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[498]

Recognizing that actions against transnational organized crime and terrorism are a common and shared responsibility, and stressing the need to work collectively to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recognizing also the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime between all relevant priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/181;[499]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices;

3. *Recognizes* the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of corruption, organized crime, money-laundering, terrorism, kidnapping, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection of victims, and international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance, as well as efforts undertaken in implementing the Programme of Action, 2006–2010, on strengthening the rule of law and the criminal justice systems in Africa,[500] in order to reduce the impact of crime and drugs as impediments to security and development in Africa;

4. *Notes* the importance of continuing to enable Member States to strengthen their capacity in developing abilities to combat kidnapping in accordance with the United Nations Counter-Kidnapping Manual, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance and cooperation in this area, upon request by interested Member States;

5. *Invites* Member States to identify, on a continuous basis, best practices in combating trafficking in persons and to share the outcome with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and, where appropriate, with the other partners in the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, to further assist them in their efforts to combat the global threat of human trafficking;

6. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have mandates related to transnational organized crime, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and to take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* Economic and Social Council decision 2007/253 of 26 July 2007, according to which the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its seventeenth session, in April 2008, would hold a thematic discussion on the aspects of violence against women that fall within its mandate, and encourages Member States to be

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[497] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 10* (E/2007/30/Rev.1), Part One, chap. I, sect. D.

[498] Resolution 60/177, annex.

[499] A/62/126.

[500] Available from www.unodc.org/art/en/ppaa.html.

appropriately represented and to participate actively in the thematic debate;

8. *Draws attention* to the emerging policy issues identified in the report of the Secretary-General, inter alia, urban crime, the sexual exploitation of children, fraud and identity theft, and international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources, and invites the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to explore, within its mandate, ways and means of addressing these issues, bearing in mind Economic and Social Council resolutions 2007/12 of 25 July 2007 and 2007/19 of 26 July 2007 on the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

9. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to develop national and regional strategies, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, in cooperation with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, to address effectively transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons, the smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and transnational trafficking in firearms, as well as corruption and terrorism;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against transnational organized crime, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

11. *Urges* all Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the Protocols thereto,[494] the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Merida Convention)[495] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and encourages States parties to continue to provide full support to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, including providing information to the Conferences regarding compliance with the treaties;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, as well as to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, and invites Member States to provide the Office with appropriate resources for its mandate;

13. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals and handbooks developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

14. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with the high priority accorded to it and in accordance with the increasing demand for its services, in particular with regard to the provision of increased assistance to developing countries, countries with economies in transition and those emerging from conflict, in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice reform;

15. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates, in conformity with its high priorities, and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.

RESOLUTION 62/176

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/441, para. 12)[501]

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[501] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

62/176. International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[502] the provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome[503] addressing the world drug problem, its resolution 61/183 of 20 December 2006 and its other previous relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[504] and the importance of meeting the objectives targeted for 2008,

Reaffirming also the joint ministerial statement adopted at the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[505] the Action Plan[506] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[507] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,[508]

Gravely concerned that, despite continued increased efforts by States, relevant organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, the world drug problem continues to constitute a serious threat to public health and safety and the well-being of humanity, in particular children and young people and their families, and to the national security and sovereignty of States, and that it undermines socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development,

Concerned by the serious challenges and threats posed by the continuing links between illicit drug trafficking and terrorism and other national and transnational criminal activities and transnational criminal networks, inter alia, trafficking in human beings, especially women and children, money-laundering, financing of terrorism, corruption, trafficking in arms and trafficking in chemical precursors, and reaffirming that strong and effective international cooperation is needed to counter these threats,

Underlining the value of objective, scientific, balanced and transparent assessment by Member States of the global progress achieved and of the difficulties encountered in meeting the goals and targets set by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Recognizing that international cooperation in countering drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking has shown that positive results can be achieved through sustained and collective efforts, and expressing its appreciation for the initiatives in this regard,

Bearing in mind the important role that civil society, including non-governmental organizations, plays in combating the world drug problem,

I

International cooperation to counter the world drug problem and follow-up to the twentieth special session

1. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requires an integrated and balanced approach and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law, and in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

2. *Also reaffirms* that there shall be a balanced approach between demand reduction and supply reduction, each reinforcing the other, in an integrated approach to solving the world drug problem;

3. *Welcomes* the decision by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to convene a high-level segment, during its fifty-second session, in order to allow time to assess the implementation of the declarations and measures adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session;[509]

4. *Also welcomes* in this regard the decision by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to devote the thematic debate at its fifty-first session to a discussion by Member States on progress made in meeting the goals and targets set at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,[509] taking into account the presentation by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of its final assessment report, as well as relevant supplementary information as set out in Commission resolutions 49/1 and 49/2;[510]

5. *Calls upon* States and other relevant actors to evaluate progress made since 1998 towards meeting the goals and targets set at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly;

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[502] See resolution 55/2.

[503] See resolution 60/1.

[504] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[505] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 8* (E/2003/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C; see also A/58/124, sect. II.A.

[506] Resolution 54/132, annex.

[507] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

[508] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[509] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 8* (E/2007/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 50/12.

[510] Ibid., *2006, Supplement No. 8* (E/2006/28), chap. I, sect. C.

6. *Urges* all States to continue to promote and implement, including by allocating adequate resources and developing clear and consistent national policies, the outcomes of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,[511] as well as the outcome of the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[505] and to implement the Action Plan[506] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[507] and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit drugs in their populations, taking into account, inter alia, the results of the assessment of the implementation of the declarations and measures adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session;

7. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[512] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[513] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[514] the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[515] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[516]

8. *Urges* all States to strengthen their efforts to achieve the goals set for 2008 at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly by:

(*a*) Promoting international initiatives in order to eliminate or reduce significantly the illicit manufacture of, trafficking in and marketing of drugs and other psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, and the diversion of precursors, other transnational criminal activities, including money-laundering and trafficking in arms, and corruption;

(*b*) Achieving significant and measurable results in the field of demand reduction, including through prevention and treatment strategies and programmes to reduce drug use, with particular focus on children and young people;

9. *Urges* Member States to fulfil their reporting obligations on the follow-up action to implement the outcomes of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem and to report fully on all measures agreed upon at the special session, including by providing data that are reliable and internationally comparable;

10. *Encourages* States to consider prevention and treatment of drug use disorders as governmental health and social priorities, and to consider consulting and working with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in developing, implementing and evaluating policies and programmes, in particular those related to demand reduction and prevention of drug abuse, and cooperating with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in alternative development programmes;

11. *Calls upon* States and organizations with expertise in community capacity-building to provide, as needed, access to treatment, health care and social services for drug users, in particular those living with HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases, and to extend support to States requiring such expertise, consistent with the international drug control treaties;

12. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration of the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit drugs in their populations, in particular among children and young people;

13. *Encourages* Member States to identify drug control priorities to be set for future concerted action and to consider making voluntary public commitments to tackle present challenges in drug trafficking;

14. *Calls upon* States to expand prevention, treatment and rehabilitation initiatives, while fully respecting the dignity of drug-addicted persons, and to take further action to improve data collection and evaluation capacity on the demand for illicit drugs, including the demand for synthetic drugs, and, where appropriate, abuse of and addiction to prescription drugs;

15. *Urges* States to continue working towards achieving a significant and measurable reduction of drug abuse by 2008;

16. *Reaffirms* the need for a comprehensive approach to the elimination of illicit narcotic crops in line with the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session;[508]

17. *Calls for* a comprehensive approach integrating alternative development programmes, including, where appropriate, preventive and innovative alternative development, into wider economic and social development programmes, with the support of a deeper international cooperation and the participation of the private sector, as appropriate;

18. *Invites* States to sustain and increase international cooperation and, where needed, technical assistance to countries implementing policies and programmes against drug production, including illicit crop eradication and alternative development programmes;

19. *Stresses* the importance of the contribution of the United Nations system and the international community to the

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[511] Resolutions S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 A–E.

[512] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[513] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[514] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[515] Ibid., vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[516] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

economic and social development of the communities that benefit from innovative alternative programmes to eradicate illicit drug production, inter alia, in reforestation, agriculture and small and medium-sized enterprises;

20. *Encourages* States to establish comprehensive monitoring systems and to enhance regional, international and multisectoral cooperation, including with industry, on the manufacture of, trafficking in and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants;

21. *Calls upon* States to consider ways to strengthen mechanisms for the collection and sharing of information on trafficking in precursors, in particular for making seizures, preventing diversions, detaining consignments, dismantling laboratories and assessing emerging trafficking and diversion trends, new manufacturing methods and the use of non-controlled substances, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the international control framework;

22. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure that adequate mechanisms are in place, where necessary and to the extent possible, to prevent the diversion of preparations containing substances listed in tables I and II of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, pertaining to illicit drug manufacture, which could easily be used or recovered by readily applicable means, in particular those containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine;

23. *Urges* all States and relevant international organizations to cooperate closely with the International Narcotics Control Board, in particular in Project Cohesion and Project Prism, in order to enhance the success of those international initiatives, and to initiate, where appropriate, investigations by their law enforcement authorities into seizures and cases involving the diversion or smuggling of precursors and essential equipment, with a view to tracking them back to the source of diversion in order to prevent continuing illicit activity;

24. *Stresses* that international cooperation on domestic precursor policies and practices would assist in complementing existing law enforcement cooperative initiatives, and encourages States to cooperate at the regional level on measures to prevent and control the domestic diversion of precursors, drawing on best practices and sharing experiences;

25. *Recognizes* that the illegal distribution of pharmaceutical products containing substances under international control via the Internet is an escalating problem and that the unsupervised use of such substances purchased through the Internet by the general public, in particular underage persons, constitutes a serious risk to global health;

26. *Encourages* Member States to notify the International Narcotics Control Board, in a regular and accurate manner, of seizures of pharmaceutical products or counterfeit drugs containing substances under international control ordered via the Internet and received by mail in order to conduct a detailed analysis of trafficking trends, and encourages the Board to continue its work with a view to raising awareness of and preventing the misuse of the Internet for the illegal supply, sale and distribution of internationally controlled licit substances;

27. *Calls upon* States to implement and strengthen, as appropriate, the measures to promote judicial cooperation adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,[517] in particular with regard to mutual legal assistance, exchange of information and joint operations, as appropriate, including with technical assistance from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

28. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities at all levels in order to prevent and combat illicit drug trafficking and to share and promote best operational practices in order to interdict illicit drug trafficking, including by establishing and strengthening regional mechanisms, providing technical assistance and establishing effective methods for cooperation, in particular in the areas of air, maritime, port and border control and in the implementation of extradition treaties, while respecting international human rights obligations;

29. *Urges* States to strengthen action, in particular international cooperation and technical assistance aimed at preventing and combating the laundering of proceeds derived from drug trafficking and related criminal activities, with the support of the United Nations system, international institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, as well as regional development banks and, where appropriate, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and similarly styled regional bodies, to develop and strengthen comprehensive international regimes to combat money-laundering and its possible links with organized crime and the financing of terrorism, and to improve information-sharing among financial institutions and agencies in charge of preventing and detecting the laundering of those proceeds;

30. *Encourages* States that have not done so to consider updating their legal and regulatory frameworks and establishing financial investigation units and, to that end, seek technical assistance, including from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular regarding the identification, freezing, seizing and confiscation of the proceeds of crime, in order to effectively prevent and combat money-laundering;

II

Action by the United Nations system

31. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its regional offices in building

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[517] See resolution S-20/4 C.

capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impact in the fight against drug trafficking, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in combating the world drug problem;

32. *Welcomes* the work carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and requests the Office to continue to carry out its mandate in accordance with previous relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in close cooperation with other relevant United Nations organizations and programmes, such as the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

33. *Notes* that the International Narcotics Control Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, reaffirms the importance of its work, encourages it to continue to carry out its work in accordance with its mandate, urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, inter alia, through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and calls for enhanced cooperation and understanding between Member States and the Board in order to enable it to implement all its mandates under the international drug control conventions;

34. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have drug control mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and to take advantage of their unique comparative advantage;

35. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of the strategy for the period 2008–2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;[518]

36. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to carry out, at the request of Member States, training programmes to support the adoption of sound methods and to harmonize indicators used for statistics on drug use, which have already been considered by the Statistical Commission, in order to collect and analyse comparable data on drug abuse;

37. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities, within its mandates, and recommends that a sufficient share of the regular budget of the United Nations be allocated to the Office to enable it to carry out its mandates and to work towards securing assured and predictable funding;

38. *Takes note* of the *World Drug Report 2007*[519] of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, regrets the surge in opium cultivation in certain areas noted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in its resolution 50/1,[520] and calls upon States to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs and to continue to take concerted measures such as the framework of the Paris Pact initiative;[521]

39. *Encourages* the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, taking into account the outcomes of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly[511] and the joint ministerial statement adopted at the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;[505]

40. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the global coordinating body in international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

41. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities, and other international organizations, and invites international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream drug control issues into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

42. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[522] and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[518] See Economic and Social Council resolutions 2007/12 and 2007/19.

[519] United Nations publication, Sales No. 07.XI.5.

[520] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 8* (E/2007/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C.

[521] See S/2003/641, annex.

[522] A/62/117.

RESOLUTION 62/218

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/433 (Part II), para. 43),[523] by a recorded vote of 154 to 1, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: None

62/218. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 60/230 of 23 December 2005 and its previous resolutions on the elimination of discrimination against women,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Reiterating the need to intensify efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women throughout the world,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[524] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[525] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[526] in particular those paragraphs concerning the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[527] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[528]

Welcoming the declaration of the Commission on the Status of Women on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[529] in which the Commission recognized that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the fulfilment of the obligations under the Convention are mutually reinforcing in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Recalling that, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[530] Heads of State and Government resolved to implement the Convention, and recalling also that the 2005

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[523] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia.

[524] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[525] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[526] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[527] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[528] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[529] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[530] See resolution 55/2.

World Summit Outcome[531] reaffirmed that gender equality and the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all are essential to advance development and peace and security,

Recognizing that the equal enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms will promote the realization of the rights of the child, bearing in mind the special needs of girls, and acknowledging the mutual reinforcement of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[532] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[533]

Noting that on 23 July 2007, at its 792nd meeting, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of its work,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Committee that national reports should contain information on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, in accordance with paragraph 323 of the Platform,

Having considered the reports of the Committee on its thirty-fourth, thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth[534] and thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth[535] sessions,

Expressing concern at the great number of reports that are overdue (two hundred and fifteen), in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[536]

2. *Also welcomes* the growing number of States parties to the Convention,[527] which now stands at one hundred and eighty-five, while expressing disappointment that universal ratification of the Convention was not achieved by 2000, and urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so;

3. *Further welcomes* the growing number of States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention,[528] which now stands at ninety, and urges other States parties to the Convention to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

4. *Urges* States parties to comply fully with their obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto and to take into consideration the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

5. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, as well as Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular women's organizations, as appropriate, to strengthen assistance to States parties, upon their request, in implementing the Convention;

6. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States parties to limit the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention;

7. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Committee of revised reporting guidelines,[537] and urges States parties to adhere to the revised guidelines, in particular with regard to the content and length of reports;

8. *Recalls* the great number of overdue reports, in particular initial reports, and urges States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in a timely manner, in accordance with article 18 thereof;

9. *Also recalls* its resolution 50/202 of 22 December 1995, in which it took note with approval of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention, which has yet to enter into force;

10. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible and the amendment can enter into force;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods, inter alia, pertaining to its meetings in parallel chambers, following its fifth informal meeting, held in Berlin from 2 to 4 May 2006,[538] and invites the Committee to consider further improvements to its working methods, especially with the aim of achieving timely and effective consideration of reports submitted by States parties;

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[531] See resolution 60/1.

[532] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[533] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531.

[534] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/61/38).

[535] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/62/38).

[536] A/62/290.

[537] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/57/38), part two, annex.

[538] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/61/38), part two, chap. VI.

12. *Notes* decision 39/I of the Committee,[539] in which it requested the General Assembly to authorize an extension of its meeting time;

13. *Also notes* that a backlog of reports of thirty-four States parties to be considered by the Committee persists;

14. *Decides* to authorize the Committee to hold three annual sessions of three weeks each, with a one-week pre-sessional working group for each session, for an interim period effective from January 2010, pending the entry into force of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention, and to authorize three annual sessions of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol to the Convention;

15. *Also decides* to authorize the Committee to meet on an exceptional and temporary basis in the biennium 2008–2009 in a total of five sessions, of which three would occur in parallel chambers, taking due account of equitable geographical distribution, for the purpose of considering reports of States parties submitted under article 18 of the Convention; and further decides that two of the five sessions shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

16. *Urges* the Committee to evaluate progress, and decides to assess the situation with regard to the location of the sessions of the Committee after two years, also taking into account the wider context of treaty body reform;

17. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, to strengthen their capacity in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to those efforts;

18. *Invites* States parties to make use of the technical assistance provided by the Secretariat to facilitate the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports;

19. *Encourages* the continued participation of members of the Committee in inter-committee meetings and meetings of persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies, including those on methods of work relating to the State reporting system;

20. *Encourages* the Committee, within its mandate, to continue to contribute to the efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the treaty bodies;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999, to provide the resources, including staff and facilities, necessary for the effective functioning of the Committee within its full mandate, taking into account in particular the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention;

22. *Urges* Governments, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

23. *Encourages* States parties to disseminate the concluding comments adopted in relation to the consideration of their reports, as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

24. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to build women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

25. *Urges* the specialized agencies, at the invitation of the Committee, to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities;

26. *Welcomes* the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee;

27. *Invites* the Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to address the General Assembly at its sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions under the item on the advancement of women;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/219

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/434, para. 16),[540] by a recorded vote of 150 to 7, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg,

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[539] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/62/38), part three, chap. I.

[540] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), El Salvador, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland and Uruguay.

Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Nauru

62/219. Report of the Human Rights Council

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 entitled "Institution-building of the United Nations Human Rights Council" and 5/2 entitled "Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council", of 18 June 2007,[541]

Endorses the decision of the Human Rights Council to adopt resolutions 5/1 and 5/2, including the annexes and appendices thereto.

RESOLUTION 62/220

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/437, para. 26),[542] by a recorded vote of 105 to 46, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Japan, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland

62/220. Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/111 of 12 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and its resolutions 56/266 of 27 March 2002, 57/195 of 18 December 2002, 58/160 of 22 December 2003, 59/177 of 20 December 2004 and 60/144 of 16 December 2005, which guided the comprehensive follow-up to and effective implementation of the World Conference, and in this regard underlining the importance of their full and effective implementation,

Recalling also its resolution 61/149 of 19 December 2006, in which it decided to convene in 2009 a review conference on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[543] hereinafter referred to as the Durban Review Conference, to be conducted within the framework of the General Assembly,

Noting, in the above context, the decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference at its organizational session,[544] including its decision PC.1/13 of 31 August 2007 on the objectives of the Durban Review Conference,

Noting also all the relevant resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Human Rights and of the Human Rights Council on this subject, and calling for their implementation,

Reiterating that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies, and that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous and must be rejected, together with theories that attempt to determine the existence of separate human races,

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[541] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[542] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan.

[543] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[544] A/62/375, annex I.

Convinced that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance manifest themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and may be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and the limitation or denial of their human rights, and recognizing the need to integrate a gender perspective into relevant policies, strategies and programmes of action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to address multiple forms of discrimination,

Underlining the primacy of political will, international cooperation and adequate funding at the national, regional and international levels for the successful implementation of the Durban Programme of Action,

Alarmed at the increase in racist violence and xenophobic ideas in many parts of the world, in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large, inter alia, as a result of the resurgent activities of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters, and the persistent use of those platforms and charters to promote or incite racist ideologies,

Underlining the importance of urgently eliminating continuing and violent trends involving racism and racial discrimination, and conscious that any form of impunity for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy, tends to encourage the recurrence of such crimes and requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

Welcoming the determination of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to profile and increase the visibility of the struggle against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and her intention to make this a cross-cutting issue in the activities and programmes of her Office,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[545] and the report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[546]

I

General principles

1. *Acknowledges* that no derogation from the prohibition of racial discrimination, genocide, the crime of apartheid or slavery is permitted, as defined in the obligations under the relevant human rights instruments;

2. *Expresses its profound concern about and its unequivocal condemnation* of all forms of racism and racial discrimination, including related acts of racially motivated violence, xenophobia and intolerance, as well as propaganda activities and organizations that attempt to justify or promote racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in any form;

3. *Expresses deep concern* at recent attempts to establish hierarchies among emerging and resurgent forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and urges States to adopt measures to address these scourges with the same emphasis and vigour with a view to preventing this practice and protecting victims;

4. *Stresses* that States and international organizations have a responsibility to ensure that measures taken in the struggle against terrorism do not discriminate in purpose or effect on grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, and urges all States to rescind or refrain from all forms of racial profiling;

5. *Recognizes* that States should implement and enforce appropriate and effective legislative, judicial, regulatory and administrative measures to prevent and protect against acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, thereby contributing to the prevention of human rights violations;

6. *Also recognizes* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance occur on the grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin and that victims can suffer multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination based on other related grounds, such as sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, social origin, property, birth or other status;

7. *Reaffirms* that any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law;

8. *Emphasizes* that it is the responsibility of States to adopt effective measures to combat criminal acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including measures to ensure that such motivations are considered an aggravating factor for the purposes of sentencing, to prevent those crimes from going unpunished and to ensure the rule of law;

9. *Urges* all States to review and, where necessary, revise their immigration laws, policies and practices so that they are free of racial discrimination and compatible with their obligations under international human rights instruments;

10. *Condemns* the misuse of print, audio-visual and electronic media and new communication technologies,

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[545] A/62/480.

[546] See A/62/306.

including the Internet, to incite violence motivated by racial hatred, and calls upon States to take all necessary measures to combat this form of racism in accordance with the commitments that they have undertaken under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[543] in particular paragraph 147 of the Programme of Action, in accordance with existing international and regional standards of freedom of expression and taking all necessary measures to guarantee the right to freedom of opinion and expression;

11. *Encourages* all States to include in their educational curricula and social programmes at all levels, as appropriate, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for all cultures, civilizations, religions, peoples and countries;

12. *Stresses* the responsibility of States to mainstream a gender perspective in the design and development of prevention, education and protection measures aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at all levels, to ensure that they effectively target the distinct situations of women and men;

II

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

13. *Reaffirms* that universal adherence to and full implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[547] are of paramount importance for the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, and for the promotion of equality and non-discrimination in the world;

14. *Reiterates* the call made by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, in paragraph 75 of the Durban Programme of Action,[543] to achieve universal ratification of the Convention by 2005 and for all States to consider making the declaration envisaged under article 14 of the Convention, and endorses the grave concern expressed by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/64 of 20 April 2005[548] to the effect that, with one hundred and seventy-three ratifications and only forty-nine declarations, the deadline for universal ratification decided by the World Conference has, regrettably, not been realized;

15. *Urges*, in the above context, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to maintain and issue regular updates on its website of a list of countries that have not yet ratified the Convention and to encourage such countries to ratify it at the earliest;

16. *Expresses its concern* at the serious delays in the submission of overdue reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which impedes the effectiveness of the Committee, makes a strong appeal to all States parties to the Convention to comply with their treaty obligations, and reaffirms the importance of the provision of technical assistance to the requesting countries in the preparation of their reports to the Committee;

17. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to ratify the amendment to article 8 of the Convention on the financing of the Committee, and calls for adequate additional resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to enable the Committee to discharge its mandate fully;

18. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to intensify their efforts to implement the obligations that they have accepted under article 4 of the Convention, with due regard to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[549] and article 5 of the Convention;

19. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee in applying the Convention to the new and contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination;

20. *Recalls* that the Committee holds that the prohibition of the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or racial hatred is compatible with the right to freedom of opinion and expression as outlined in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in article 5 of the Convention;

21. *Welcomes* the emphasis placed by the Committee on the importance of follow-up to the World Conference and the measures recommended to strengthen the implementation of the Convention as well as the functioning of the Committee;[550]

III

Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

22. *Acknowledges* that the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance is on an equal footing with the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions in the human rights and social fields;

23. *Also acknowledges* that the World Conference, which was the third world conference against racism, was significantly different from the previous two conferences, as evidenced by the inclusion in its title of two important

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[547] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[548] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[549] Resolution 217 A (III).

[550] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/57/18), chap. XI, sect. E.

components relating to contemporary forms of racism, namely, xenophobia and related intolerance;

24. *Emphasizes* that the basic responsibility for effectively combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance lies with States, and to this end stresses that States have the primary responsibility to ensure full and effective implementation of all commitments and recommendations contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;[543]

25. *Reaffirms its commitment* to eliminating all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of related intolerance against indigenous peoples, and in this regard notes the attention paid to the objectives of combating prejudice and eliminating discrimination and promoting tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;[551]

26. *Emphasizes* the fundamental and complementary role of national human rights institutions, regional bodies or centres and civil society, working jointly with States towards the achievement of the objectives of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

27. *Welcomes* the steps taken by numerous Governments, in particular the elaboration and implementation of national action plans to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and steps taken by national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations, towards the full implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and affirms this trend as a demonstration of commitment for the elimination of all scourges of racism at the national level;

28. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet elaborated their national action plans on combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to comply with their commitments undertaken at the World Conference;

29. *Calls upon* all States to formulate and implement without delay, at the national, regional and international levels, policies and plans of action to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including their gender-based manifestations;

30. *Acknowledges and supports* the initiative led by the States members of the Caribbean Community and other Member States for the establishment of a permanent memorial at the United Nations to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade as a contribution towards the fulfilment of paragraph 101 of the Durban Declaration, expresses its appreciation for contributions made to the voluntary fund established in this regard, and urges other countries to contribute to the fund;

31. *Urges* States to support the activities of existing regional bodies or centres that combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in their respective regions, and recommends the establishment of such bodies in all regions where they do not exist;

32. *Recognizes* the fundamental role of civil society in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular in assisting States to develop regulations and strategies, in taking measures and action against such forms of discrimination and through follow-up implementation;

33. *Decides* that the General Assembly, through its role in policy formulation, the Economic and Social Council, through its role in overall guidance and coordination, in accordance with their respective roles under the Charter of the United Nations and Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, and the Human Rights Council shall constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental process for the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

34. *Stresses and reaffirms* its role as the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy on matters relating to the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with Chapter IX of the Charter, including in the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the goals and targets set at all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions;

35. *Reaffirms* that the Human Rights Council shall continue to have a central role in the monitoring of the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action within the United Nations system and in advising the General Assembly thereon;

36. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing work in follow-up to the World Conference undertaken by the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent;

37. *Acknowledges* the centrality of resource mobilization, effective global partnership and international cooperation in the context of paragraphs 157 and 158 of the Durban Programme of Action for the successful realization of commitments undertaken at the World Conference, and to this end emphasizes the importance of the mandate of the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, especially in mobilizing the necessary political will for the successful implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

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[551] Resolution 61/295, annex.

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources for the effective fulfilment of the mandates of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent and the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

39. *Expresses its concern* at the increasing incidence of racism in various sporting events, while noting with appreciation the efforts made by some governing bodies of the various sporting codes to combat racism, and in this regard invites all international sporting bodies to promote, through their national, regional and international federations, a world of sport free from racism and racial discrimination;

40. *Invites*, in this context, the Fédération internationale de football association, in connection with the 2010 soccer World Cup tournament to be held in South Africa, to consider introducing a visible theme on non-racism in football, requests the Secretary-General to bring this invitation to the attention of the Fédération and to bring the issue of racism in sport to the attention of other relevant international sporting bodies, and in this regard appreciates the joint efforts of the Government of Germany, the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance during the 2006 World Cup;

IV

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and follow-up to his visits

41. *Expresses its full support and appreciation* for the work of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and encourages its continuation, bearing in mind the special procedures review process being undertaken by the Human Rights Council;

42. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States, intergovernmental organizations, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, and calls upon States to consider responding favourably to his requests for visits so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate fully and effectively;

43. *Recognizes with deep concern* the increase in anti-Semitism, Christianophobia and Islamophobia in various parts of the world, as well as the emergence of racial and violent movements based on racism and discriminatory ideas directed against Arab, Christian, Jewish and Muslim communities, as well as all religious communities, communities of people of African descent, communities of people of Asian descent, communities of indigenous people and other communities;

44. *Encourages* closer collaboration between the Special Rapporteur and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in particular the Anti-Discrimination Unit;

45. *Urges* the High Commissioner to provide States, at their request, with advisory services and technical assistance to enable them to implement fully the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary human and financial assistance to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously and to enable him to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

47. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur,[546] and urges Member States and other relevant stakeholders to consider implementing those recommendations;

48. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue giving particular attention to the negative impact of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance on the full enjoyment of civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights by national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, immigrant populations, asylum-seekers and refugees;

49. *Invites* Member States to demonstrate greater commitment to fighting racism in sport by conducting educational and awareness-raising activities and by strongly condemning the perpetrators of racist incidents, in cooperation with national and international sports organizations;

V

Convening of the Durban Review Conference

50. *Welcomes* the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference on its organizational session,[552] and underlines that the Preparatory Committee shall, at its first substantive session, in accordance with its decision PC.1/14 of 31 August 2007,[544] discuss, inter alia, the organization of the work of the Conference and other matters, including the allocation of funding from the regular budget of the United Nations for the convening of the Conference in 2009;

51. *Calls upon* Member States that are in a position to do so to offer to host the regional preparatory conferences in their regions, consistent with the objectives of the Durban Review Conference, and to ensure the widest possible participation in those conferences, whose outcomes will contribute to the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee;

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[552] A/62/375.

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate adequate funds from the regular budget of the United Nations for expenses not covered in Preparatory Committee decision PC.1/12 of 31 August 2007,[544] to facilitate the participation of all the relevant special procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council in the meetings of the Preparatory Committee and the regional preparatory conferences;

VI

General

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

54. *Decides* to remain seized of this important matter at its sixty-third session under an item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance".

RESOLUTION 62/221

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.2, para. 173)[553]

62/221. Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/105 of 4 December 2000 concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling also its resolutions 55/34 B of 20 November 2000 and 55/233 of 23 December 2000, section III of its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000, and its resolutions 58/176 of 22 December 2003, 59/183 of 20 December 2004, 60/151 of 16 December 2005 and 61/158 of 19 December 2006 on the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa,

Recalling further that the World Conference on Human Rights recommended that more resources be made available for the strengthening of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights under the programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[554]

Recalling the report of the High Commissioner,[555]

Taking note of the holding of the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth ministerial meetings of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, in Sao Tome from 14 to 18 May 2007 and in Yaoundé from 3 to 7 September 2007,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General,[556]

Welcoming the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[557] in particular the decision confirmed therein to double the regular budget of the Office of the High Commissioner over the next five years,

1. *Welcomes* the activities of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the support provided for the establishment of the Centre by the host country;

3. *Takes note* of the adoption of the new three-year strategy for the Centre, which aims to reinforce its activities;[558]

4. *Also takes note* of the conclusions contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the need to ensure the full implementation of resolution 61/158;[559]

5. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide additional funds and human resources within the existing resources of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to enable the Centre to respond positively and effectively to the growing needs in the promotion and protection of human rights and in developing a culture of democracy and the rule of law in the Central African subregion;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[553] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Portugal, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[554] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[555] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 36*, addendum (A/56/36/Add.1).

[556] A/62/317.

[557] See resolution 60/1.

[558] See A/62/317, paras. 14–19.

[559] Ibid., para. 63.

RESOLUTION 62/222

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/439/Add.3, para. 49),[560] by a recorded vote of 83 to 22, with 47 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay

Against: Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Barbados, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia

62/222. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[561] and recalling the International Covenants on Human Rights[562] and other relevant human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and the duty to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Reaffirming also its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the most recent of which is resolution 61/232 of 22 December 2006, those of the Commission on Human Rights and resolution S-5/1 of 2 October 2007, adopted by the Human Rights Council at its fifth special session,[563]

Welcoming the statement by the President of the Security Council issued on 11 October 2007,[564]

Recalling that everyone has the right to take part in the government of his or her country, directly or through freely chosen representatives, the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association,

Deeply concerned at the situation of human rights in Myanmar, and in particular at the recent violent repression of peaceful demonstrations, including through beatings, killings, arbitrary detentions and enforced disappearances,

1. *Strongly condemns* the use of violence against peaceful demonstrators who were exercising their rights to freedom of opinion and expression and to peaceful assembly and association, and expresses its condolences to the victims and their families;

2. *Expresses grave concern* at:

(*a*) The ongoing systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, of the people of Myanmar, as described in resolution 61/232 and in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council;

(*b*) The arbitrary detentions, including the use of physical violence, in response to peaceful protests, and the extension, once again, of the house arrest of the General Secretary of the National League for Democracy, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, as well as the continuing high number of political prisoners, including other political leaders, persons belonging to ethnic nationalities and human rights defenders;

(*c*) The major and repeated violations of international humanitarian law committed against civilians, as denounced by the International Committee of the Red Cross in June 2007;

(*d*) The discrimination and violations suffered by persons belonging to ethnic nationalities of Myanmar, particularly in border and conflict areas, and attacks by military forces and non-State armed groups on villages in Karen State and other ethnic States in Myanmar, leading to extensive forced displacements and serious violations and other abuses of the human rights of the affected populations;

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[560] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[561] Resolution 217 A (III).

[562] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[563] A/HRC/S-5/2, chap. I. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53).

[564] S/PRST/2007/37; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2007–31 July 2008.*

(*e*) The absence of effective and genuine participation of the representatives of the National League for Democracy and other political parties and some ethnic nationality groups in the National Convention and the slow pace of the democratic reform;

(*f*) The continuous deterioration of the living conditions and the increase of poverty affecting a significant part of the population throughout the country, with serious consequences for the enjoyment of their economic, social and cultural rights;

3. *Welcomes:*

(*a*) The reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar[565] and his oral presentations, as well as the agreement of the Government of Myanmar to his visit in November 2007 after four years of his having been denied access;

(*b*) The report of the Secretary-General[566] and his designation of a Special Adviser on Myanmar to continue to pursue his mandate of good offices, and affirms its full support for his mission;

(*c*) The visits of the Special Adviser to Myanmar in October and November 2007;

(*d*) The conclusion between the International Labour Organization and the Government of Myanmar of an understanding designed to provide a mechanism to enable victims of forced labour to seek redress;

(*e*) The visits to Myanmar of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator at the invitation of the Government of Myanmar, and the implementation of some of the measures agreed during those visits;

(*f*) The progress reported on the work conducted by the Government of Myanmar and international humanitarian entities on HIV/AIDS and avian influenza;

(*g*) The role of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and of neighbouring countries in encouraging the Government of Myanmar to resume its efforts at national reconciliation with all parties concerned, and to work towards a peaceful transition to democracy, and the continuing efforts of the Association and of neighbouring countries for the promotion and protection of the human rights of the people of Myanmar;

(*h*) The appointment by the Government of Myanmar of a minister for relations with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the two meetings held so far between the two, while stressing the need for this process to lead to a substantive dialogue, with concrete outcomes within an agreed time frame, between the Government and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi;

4. *Strongly calls upon* the Government of Myanmar:

(*a*) To ensure full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, to end restrictions on those freedoms that are incompatible with the obligations of the Government under international human rights law, to protect inhabitants and to investigate and bring to justice perpetrators of violations of human rights;

(*b*) To give serious consideration to the recommendations and proposals put forward by the Special Adviser during his visit to Myanmar in October 2007 and to fully implement the previous recommendations of the Special Rapporteur, the Special Adviser, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights, the International Labour Organization and other United Nations bodies;

(*c*) To exercise utmost restraint and to desist from further arrests and violence against peaceful protesters and to release without delay those who have been arbitrarily arrested and detained, as well as all political prisoners, immediately and unconditionally, including the leaders of the National League for Democracy, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Tin Oo, the leader of the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, Khun Htun Oo, and other Shan leaders, and the "88 Generation" students' group leaders Min Ko Naing and Ko Ko Gyi;

(*d*) To lift all restraints on the peaceful political activity of all persons by, inter alia, guaranteeing freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, including for free and independent media, and to ensure unhindered access to media information for the people of Myanmar;

(*e*) To cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the context of the implementation of Human Rights Council resolution S-5/1[563] and to ensure that no person cooperating with the Special Rapporteur or any international organization is subjected to any form of intimidation, harassment or punishment;

(*f*) To ensure immediately safe and unhindered access to all parts of Myanmar, including conflict and border areas, for the United Nations, international humanitarian organizations and their partners and to cooperate fully with those organizations in order to ensure that humanitarian assistance is delivered to all persons in need throughout the country;

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[565] See A/62/223 and A/HRC/4/14.

[566] A/62/498.

(*g*) To put an immediate end to the continuing recruitment and use of child soldiers, in violation of international law, by all parties, to intensify measures to ensure the protection of children from armed conflict and to pursue its collaboration with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict;

(*h*) To take urgent measures to put an end to the military operations targeting civilians in the ethnic areas, and to the associated violations of human rights and humanitarian law directed against persons belonging to ethnic nationalities, to end the systematic forced displacement of large numbers of persons and other causes of refugee flows to neighbouring countries and to respect existing ceasefire agreements;

5. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar:

(*a*) To permit all political representatives and representatives of ethnic nationalities to participate fully in the political transition process without restrictions and, to that end, to resume without further delay a dialogue with all political actors, including the National League for Democracy and representatives of ethnic nationalities;

(*b*) To pursue, through dialogue and peaceful means, the immediate suspension and permanent end of conflict with all ethnic nationalities in Myanmar and to allow the full participation of representatives of all political parties and representatives of ethnic nationalities in an inclusive and credible process of national reconciliation, democratization and the establishment of the rule of law;

(*c*) To fulfil its obligations to restore the independence of the judiciary and due process of law, and to take further steps to reform the system of administration of justice, as well as to ensure that discipline in prisons does not amount to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and that conditions of detention otherwise meet international standards;

(*d*) To cooperate fully with the Special Adviser in the fulfilment of his good offices, by agreeing to his visits to the country, allowing him unrestricted access to all relevant parties, including detained activists, ethnic minority representatives, student leaders and dissident monks, and by engaging with him in finding a peaceful solution aimed at achieving effective progress towards the restoration of democracy and the protection of human rights in Myanmar;

(*e*) To engage in a dialogue with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to ensuring full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*f*) To continue its efforts with the International Labour Organization towards the effective implementation of the national mechanism established to receive complaints of forced labour;

(*g*) To allow human rights defenders to pursue their activities unhindered and to ensure their safety, security and freedom of movement in that pursuit;

(*h*) To refrain from imposing restrictions on access to and flow of information from the people of Myanmar, including through the openly available and accessible use of Internet and mobile phone services;

(*i*) To allow the International Committee of the Red Cross to carry out its humanitarian activities for people in need, in particular by granting immediate access to persons detained and by providing the necessary information on persons unaccounted for in connection with recent events;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions on the situation of human rights and the restoration of democracy with the Government and the people of Myanmar, including all relevant parties to the national reconciliation process in Myanmar, and to offer technical assistance to the Government in this regard;

(*b*) To closely monitor the developments with regard to the violent incidents that took place, with the aim of preventing the resumption of violence;

(*c*) To give all necessary assistance to enable the Special Adviser and the Special Rapporteur to discharge their mandates fully and effectively and in a coordinated manner;

(*d*) To report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session as well as to the Human Rights Council on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its sixty-third session, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur.

VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee*

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* Unless otherwise stated, the draft resolutions recommended in the reports were submitted by the Chairman or another officer of the Bureau of the Committee.

RESOLUTION 62/1

Adopted at the 25th plenary meeting, on 15 October 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/478, para. 6)

62/1. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: requests under Article 19 of the Charter

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter V of the report of the Committee on Contributions on its sixty-seventh session,[1]

Reaffirming the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 54/237 C of 23 December 1999;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to bring to the attention of Member States the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C, including through an early announcement in the *Journal of the United Nations* and through direct communication;

4. *Urges* all Member States requesting exemption under Article 19 of the Charter to submit as much information as possible in support of their requests and to consider submitting such information in advance of the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C so as to enable the collation of any additional detailed information that may be necessary;

5. *Agrees* that the failure of the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Tajikistan to pay the full minimum amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter was due to conditions beyond their control;

6. *Decides* that the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Tajikistan should be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until the end of its sixty-second session.

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/62/11).

RESOLUTION 62/87

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 10 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/563, para. 7)

62/87. Capital master plan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001 and 56/286 of 27 June 2002, section II of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002, its resolution 59/295 of 22 June 2005, section II of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005, its resolutions 60/256 of 8 May 2006 and 60/282 of 30 June 2006, section II.B of its resolution 61/236 of 22 December 2006, its resolutions 61/246 and 61/251 of the same date, its resolution 62/225 of 22 December 2007 and its decision 58/566 of 8 April 2004,

Having considered the fifth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan,[2] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007[4] and the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006,[5]

Reaffirming that the costs of the capital master plan are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Reiterates its serious concern* at the hazards, risks and deficiencies of the United Nations Headquarters Building in its current condition, which endanger the safety, health and well-being of staff, delegations, visitors and tourists;

2. *Stresses* the special role of the host country Government with regard to support for United Nations Headquarters, in New York;

3. *Notes* the benefits, including economic ones, accruing to host countries from the presence of the United Nations, and the costs incurred;

4. *Recalls* the current practices of host Governments with regard to support for United Nations Headquarters and United Nations bodies located in their territories;

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[2] A/62/364 and Corr.1.

[3] A/62/7/Add.4 and Corr.1. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[4] A/62/281 (Part I), paras. 72–75.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/62/5), vol. V.

5. *Reaffirms* its commitment to the safety, security, health and well-being of staff, delegations, visitors and tourists at the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that concrete safeguards are in place to achieve these objectives and are part of the standard operating procedures throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

6. *Takes note* of the fifth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan,[2] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007[4] and the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006;[5]

7. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. *Regrets deeply* the procedural difficulties in United Nations departments, delays in decision-making by Secretariat leadership and insufficient responsiveness to the needs of the project by United Nations management, resulting in projected cost escalation, as reported in paragraph 23 of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

9. *Stresses* the centrality of the leadership and oversight of the Secretary-General and senior management, as well as a commitment to the project from all departments during the completion of the capital master plan to avoid a recurrence of the mistakes and delays in the implementation of the project to date and their negative implications for the Organization;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full accountability for the delays, lack of responsiveness of management to the needs of the capital master plan and other factors that have contributed to delays in the implementation of the capital master plan and the projected budget overrun, and to include this information in his sixth annual progress report;

11. *Accepts* the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the year ended 31 December 2006;[5]

12. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;

13. *Notes with concern* the findings of the Board of Auditors as contained in its report, and emphasizes the importance of the full implementation of its recommendations;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of oversight with respect to the implementation of the capital master plan, and requests the Board of Auditors and all other relevant oversight bodies to continue to report to the General Assembly annually on the capital master plan;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with a comprehensive review focusing, inter alia, on the structure of the Office of the Capital Master Plan, compliance with United Nations regulations and rules on procurement and contracting, adherence to the terms of contracts, internal controls and processes in place to properly manage the project and other high-risk areas, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

16. *Requests* the Office of Internal Oversight Services to ensure effective audit coverage of the capital master plan and to submit to the General Assembly all of its reports related to the implementation of the capital master plan;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop and implement a comprehensive internal control framework for the capital master plan to mitigate and effectively address all possible risks, to ensure full compliance and responsiveness on the part of management to the specific requirements of the project, to avoid any delays in the implementation of any aspect of the project and to ensure full compliance with United Nations rules and procedures and General Assembly resolutions governing procurement;

18. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 36 to 38 of its resolution 61/251 on the importance of transparency in the procurement process, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the construction manager takes them fully into account when subcontracting and to report, in the context of his sixth annual progress report, on the specific steps taken and progress achieved in the context of increasing procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of the capital master plan;

19. *Reaffirms once again* paragraph 38 of its resolution 61/251, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that procurement activities conducted by the construction manager in the implementation of the capital master plan are in compliance with United Nations rules, regulations and procedures and General Assembly resolutions governing United Nations procurement activities as well as ethics policies, including post-employment restrictions,[6] and that the relevant provisions are taken fully into account by the construction manager when subcontracting;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all expression of interest notices issued by the construction manager and all related contract awards are posted on the capital master plan website;

21. *Recalls* that, in accordance with article 5 of the United Nations general conditions of contract, the terms of any subcontract shall be subject to and conform to the provisions of the general conditions of contract;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to exercise his authority to undertake, in respect of the subcontractors directly involved in the provision of goods and services to the

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[6] See ST/SGB/2006/15.

Organization on behalf of the capital master plan construction manager, a thorough review of their qualifications and the identities of the principals involved, and also requests the Secretary-General to provide prior written approval and clearance for the use of such subcontractors, as required in article 5 of the general conditions of contract, so as to ensure the integrity, fairness and transparency of the procurement process;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to post and regularly update the list of subcontractors approved by the United Nations on the capital master plan website and to include information on the implementation of article 5 of the general conditions of contract, including the procedure for review and approval of subcontractors by the United Nations, in future progress reports on the implementation of the capital master plan;

24. *Reaffirms* section XV of its resolution 61/244 of 22 December 2006;

25. *Regrets* the delay in the appointment of the advisory board requested in its resolutions 57/292 and 61/251, and urges the Secretary-General to expedite the setting up of the advisory board, reflecting wide geographical representation, so that it can begin its work as a matter of priority;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the advisory board provides, inter alia, the necessary level of technical supervision;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to explore the experience of various international organizations that have established ad hoc expert committees to provide advice on technical aspects of their construction and/or building maintenance projects and to report to the General Assembly thereon in the context of the forthcoming sixth annual progress report;

28. *Affirms* that the General Assembly has the sole prerogative of deciding on any changes to the capital master plan project, budget and implementation strategy as approved in its resolutions;

29. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General on the accelerated strategy IV;

30. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into an additional swing space arrangement needed for a single-phase renovation of the Secretariat Building as a matter of urgency;

31. *Approves* the changes in the schedule of the renovation of the Secretariat Building proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 27 of his report,[2] subject to the availability of the additional swing space arrangement referred to in paragraph 30 above, and, if such arrangement is not entered into within one hundred and twenty days of the adoption of the present resolution, requests the Secretary-General to proceed without further delay with the phased approach to the renovation of the Secretariat Building as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/251;

32. *Also approves* the changes in the schedule of the renovation of the Conference Building and the General Assembly Building as proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 28 of his report;[2]

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly comprehensive information on the availability and cost of and the movement of staff to the hired swing space and to ensure that such space will be available to the United Nations as long as it is required and will entail no additional cost or further staff dislocation, bearing in mind the unique nature of the capital master plan;

34. *Reaffirms* paragraph 39 of its resolution 61/251 and emphasizes to the Secretary-General the importance of effectively managing the multiple staff relocations and ensuring that the swing space meets the highest standards for the safety, security, health and well-being of the staff of the United Nations and that any disruption in the work of the United Nations as a result of such temporary relocation is minimized at every stage;

35. *Recalls* paragraphs 51 to 56 of the report of the Board of Auditors,[5] and requests the Secretary-General to expeditiously complete the geotechnical and other surveys and to provide updated information on the outstanding technical elements of the project that may have a considerable impact on the overall project, including design work for upgraded blast protection and geotechnical and other surveys, and to include this information in future progress reports;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the changes approved in paragraphs 30 and 32 of the present resolution are implemented without prejudice to the objectives and quality of the project and to submit to the General Assembly a comprehensive report on the efficiency gains and cost absorption possible through the implementation of these changes;

37. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of its resolution 61/251, and decides that any scope options in addition to those already approved by the General Assembly shall be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly for its consideration and approval;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure by all means that the project costs are brought back within the approved budget;

39. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to ensure that the capital master plan is completed within the budget as approved in its resolution 61/251;

40. *Notes* that forward pricing escalation is already included in the approved budget contained in the fourth annual

progress report of the Secretary-General,[7] and requests the Secretary-General to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to keep the capital master plan within the approved budget, schedule of assessments and time schedule;

41. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General to utilize value engineering as a tool to recover the projected cost overruns in the capital master plan budget approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/251, directed at improving performance, reliability, quality, safety and life-cycle costs, and requests the Secretary-General to expeditiously and clearly identify the areas of work where efficiency gains and cost reductions are possible and to report thereon in the context of his sixth annual progress report;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his sixth annual progress report specific information on the guaranteed maximum price contracts and the activities of the external consultant that the United Nations has hired;

43. *Expresses its concern* that no specific information has been shared with Member States concerning associated costs, and requests the Secretary-General to include such information in his sixth annual progress report and to make every effort to absorb such costs within the approved budget of the capital master plan;

44. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that works of art, masterpieces and other gifts are appropriately handled during all the stages of the renovation work and that all associated costs are foreseen;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that measures and procedures are put in place by the Office of the Capital Master Plan to appropriately handle the works of art, masterpieces and other gifts during all the stages of the renovation unless otherwise indicated by the Member States concerned and to report thereon in the context of the forthcoming sixth annual progress report;

46. *Decides* to appropriate 992,771,819 United States dollars for the biennium 2008–2009;

47. *Reaffirms* the mixed one-time and multi-year assessment option based on the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget for 2007, as stipulated in paragraphs 14 to 20 of its resolution 61/251, and decides that there will be no change in the payment schedule for contributions of Member States to the capital master plan;

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve coordination of the capital master plan with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in the context of reporting on matters and progress relating to the capital master plan and to clarify the existing arrangements that are in place to avoid damage to the image of the United Nations with regard to all aspects of the capital master plan;

49. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to update the Member States through regular informal briefings, besides submitting annual progress reports, on all aspects of the implementation of the capital master plan, including the current status, significant activities carried out since the previous report and risk analysis information outlining any risks identified, action to be taken, status and trends, and to update the relevant information on its website on a regular basis;

50. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in his sixth annual progress report information on lessons learned in the implementation of the capital master plan and how they are being utilized to improve the current and future planning and implementation of the capital master plan.

RESOLUTION 62/223

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/534, para. 7)

62/223. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/222 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 E of 17 June 1997, 52/212 B of 31 March 1998, 53/204 of 18 December 1998, 53/221, section VIII, of 7 April 1999, 54/13 B of 23 December 1999, 55/220 A, B and C of 23 December 2000 and 12 April and 14 June 2001, 57/278 A of 20 December 2002, 60/234 A and B of 23 December 2005 and 30 June 2006 and 61/233 A and B of 22 December 2006 and 29 June 2007,

Having considered the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2006,[8] the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Office for Project Services for the biennium ended 31 December 2005,[9] the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations relating to the biennium 2004–2005,[10] the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements of the United Nations Office for Project Services for the financial period ended

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[7] A/61/549.

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/62/5/Add.5).

[9] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 5J* (A/61/5/Add.10).

[10] See A/62/120.

31 December 2005[11] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[12]

Recalling paragraphs 8 and 9 of its resolution 61/233 A,

1. *Accepts* the financial report and audited financial statements and the report and audit opinion of the Board of Auditors on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2006[8] and the audited financial statements and the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Office for Project Services for the biennium ended 31 December 2005;[9]

2. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports on the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the year ended 31 December 2006[13] and on the United Nations Office for Project Services for the biennium ended 31 December 2005;[14]

3. *Also endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[12]

4. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the superior quality and the streamlined format of its reports;

5. *Notes* the concerns of the Board of Auditors about the general financial situation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, including the level of the reserves of the Office, requests the Office to continue to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and encourages Member States to respond in a timely manner to the appeal of the Office for resources;

6. *Also notes* the concerns of the Board of Auditors about the financial report and audited financial statements of the United Nations Office for Project Services for the biennium ended 31 December 2005,[9] welcomes the measures taken by the Office to address the seriousness of its financial problems, and encourages the Office to implement all the recommendations of the Board and to report to the relevant governing bodies on progress made in this regard;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements of the United Nations Office for Project Services for the financial period ended 31 December 2005[11] as well as the report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of its recommendations relating to the biennium 2004–2005;[10]

8. *Welcomes* the efforts by the Secretary-General to carefully monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to ensure full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in a prompt and timely manner and to hold programme managers accountable for implementation of the recommendations;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide in his reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations as well as on the financial statements of its funds and programmes a full explanation for delays in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board, in particular those recommendations not yet fully implemented which are two or more years old;

11. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to indicate in future reports an expected time frame for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, as well as the priorities for their implementation and the office holders to be held accountable.

RESOLUTION 62/224

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/564, para. 8)

62/224. Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 57/282 of 20 December 2002, 58/268 and 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004, 60/257 of 8 May 2006 and 61/235 of 22 December 2006,

Recalling also the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-seventh session[15] and the report of the Secretary-General on experience gained in the planning and budgeting process,[16]

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[11] A/61/214/Add.2.

[12] A/62/355 and A/61/350/Add.1.

[13] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 5E* (A/62/5/Add.5), chap. II.

[14] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 5J* (A/61/5/Add.10), chap. II.

[15] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/62/16).

[16] A/62/81.

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

2. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;[17]

3. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;

4. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

5. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations, on programme planning, on evaluation, on the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2006/07, on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and on improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate;[18]

6. *Decides* to discontinue preparation of the report under the agenda item entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations", mandated in accordance with its resolution 45/254 A of 21 December 1990;

7. *Stresses* the urgent need to fill the position of Special Adviser on Africa in order to direct international efforts to ensure that African issues remain a priority on the global development agenda and also stresses the need to mobilize support for capacity and resources and to align funds, agencies and programmes to the objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[19] that underpin the consolidation of peace and democracy on the continent;

8. *Emphasizes* that, in full accordance with its mandate to assist the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on coordination, the Committee for Programme and Coordination should enhance its coordination role through improved cooperation with the secretariat of the Chief Executives Board and the Joint Inspection Unit, in order to increase planning efficiency and effectiveness so as to continue to ensure the timeliness of the implementation of, and prevent duplication and redundancy in, the action of the Organization;

9. *Welcomes* the intention of the Committee for Programme and Coordination to enhance its dialogue on coordination issues with the Joint Inspection Unit and the secretariat of the Chief Executives Board;

10. *Recalls* regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[17] and reiterates that the Committee for Programme and Coordination shall continue to perform its role in reviewing the strategic framework and recommend any necessary changes to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

11. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in monitoring and evaluation, and encourages the Committee, in reviewing performance and evaluation reports, to provide, inter alia, action-oriented recommendations aimed at enhancing the effectiveness and impact of the activities of the Organization;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session proposals to improve the links between monitoring, evaluation, programme planning and budgeting;

13. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to utilize the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination when considering related reports of the Chief Executives Board;

14. *Welcomes* the decision by the Committee for Programme and Coordination to devote one or two meetings of its future sessions to a discussion, with high-level participation, of a specific issue in its programme of work related to coordination, and in this regard emphasizes the need for the presence of senior programme managers to assist the Committee in its deliberations;

15. *Also welcomes* the work done by the Committee for Programme and Coordination in improving its working methods and procedures within the framework of its mandate for further enhancing its effectiveness and efficiency, and looks forward to the implementation of the decisions of the Committee in order to continue improving its working methods and procedures.

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[17] ST/SGB/2000/8.

[18] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/62/16), chaps. II, III.A and C, IV.A and B and V.

[19] A/57/304, annex.

RESOLUTION 62/225

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/535, para. 7)

62/225. Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/262 of 15 February 2002, 56/287 of 27 June 2002, 57/283 A of 20 December 2002, 57/283 B of 15 April 2003, 58/250 of 23 December 2003, 59/265 of 23 December 2004, 60/236 A of 23 December 2005, 60/236 B of 8 May 2006 and 61/236 of 22 December 2006,

Reaffirming its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2007[20] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[21]

Having also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[22]

Reaffirming the provisions relevant to conference services of its resolutions on multilingualism,

I

Calendar of conferences and meetings

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2007;[20]

2. *Approves* the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2008 and 2009, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[23] taking into account the observations of the Committee and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2008 and 2009 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its sixty-second session;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208 A, 54/248, 55/222, 56/242, 57/283 B, 58/250, 59/265, 60/236 A and 61/236 concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that any modification to the calendar of conferences and meetings is implemented strictly in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Conferences and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

II

A. Utilization of conference-servicing resources

1. *Reaffirms* the practice that, in the use of conference rooms, priority must be given to the meetings of Member States;

2. *Notes* that the overall utilization factor at the four main duty stations, while still above the established benchmark of 80 per cent, decreased from 85 per cent in 2005 to 83 per cent in 2006, although the planning accuracy factor improved by 5 per cent over the 2005 reporting period;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by those bodies that have adjusted their programmes of work in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources, and requests the Committee on Conferences to continue consultations with the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources;

4. *Recognizes* that late starts and unplanned early endings seriously affect the bodies' utilization factor owing to the amount of time lost, and invites the secretariats and bureaux of bodies to pay adequate attention to avoiding late starts and unplanned early endings;

5. *Also recognizes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met;

6. *Notes* that the percentage of meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States that were provided with interpretation services in the four main duty stations in 2006 decreased to 76 per cent, as compared with 87 per cent in 2005, expresses its concern about the difficulties experienced by Member States owing to the lack of conference services for some meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, and requests the Secretary-

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[20] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/62/32).

[21] A/62/161 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

[22] A/62/473.

[23] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/62/32), annex II.

General to continue to explore innovative ways to address this problem and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

7. *Takes note with concern* of the information provided in paragraph 38 of the report of the Secretary-General,[24] and requests the Secretary-General to take measures to improve the planning of conference resource allocations with a view to ensuring that the bodies entitled to meet "as required" receive adequate conference services;

8. *Once again urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify conference services, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with several General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/236, section II.A, paragraph 9, in conformity with the headquarters rule, all meetings of Nairobi-based United Nations bodies were held in Nairobi in 2006, but reiterates the need for vigilance in this respect, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-third session through the Committee on Conferences;

10. *Welcomes* the increased promotional activities undertaken by the management of the United Nations conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, which resulted in a utilization rate of 60.13 per cent in 2006, a marked increase over the 2005 rate of 42.23 per cent, which is an upward trend that is continuing, with a utilization rate of 75 per cent recorded as at 31 May 2007;

11. *Also welcomes* the cooperation agreement concluded by the Economic Commission for Africa with the Division of Conference Services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi with respect to the sharing of conference-servicing and information technology staff, as well as similar agreements reached with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the United Nations Office at Geneva and United Nations Headquarters in New York;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore means to increase the utilization of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, bearing in mind the headquarters minimum operating security standards, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

B. Impact of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach), on meetings held at Headquarters during its implementation

1. *Requests* bodies whose meetings are listed in the calendar of conferences and meetings, when planning their meetings, especially major or high-level conferences, summits and special meetings, organs created under the Charter of the United Nations, their subsidiary bodies and other intergovernmental organizations and treaty bodies that normally meet at Headquarters to take into consideration the limitations and inflexibility of all conference facilities at Headquarters throughout the construction phase of the capital master plan;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the work of the Security Council during its night and weekend meetings is not affected by noise from construction taking place underneath the Council conference rooms during the second phase of the capital master plan;

3. *Requests* all meeting requesters and organizers to liaise closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat on all matters related to the scheduling of meetings to allow maximum predictability in coordinating activities at Headquarters during the construction period;

4. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to keep the matter under constant review, and requests the Secretary-General to report regularly to the Committee on matters pertaining to the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations during the construction period;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that implementation of the capital master plan, including the temporary relocation of conference-servicing staff to a swing space, will not compromise the quality of conference services provided to Member States and the equal treatment of the language services, which should be provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to receiving maximum quality of services;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide adequate information technology support for documentation services to ensure their seamless operation throughout the implementation of the capital master plan;

7. *Notes* that during the implementation of the capital master plan, a part of the conference-servicing staff and information technology resources of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management will be temporarily relocated to a swing space, and requests the Secretary-General to provide adequate support to ensure continued maintenance of the information technology facilities of the Department, implementation of the global information technology initiative and delivery of quality conference services;

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[24] A/62/161 and Corr.1 and 2.

III

Integrated global management

1. *Notes with appreciation* the progress achieved in the implementation of the global information technology project, aimed at integrating, across duty stations, information technology into meetings management and documentation-processing systems, and the global approach to harmonizing standards and information technology and sharing good practices and technological achievements among conference services at the four main duty stations;

2. *Also notes with appreciation* the initiatives undertaken in the context of integrated global management aimed at streamlining procedures, achieving economies of scale and improving the quality of conference services, and in this regard stresses the importance of ensuring equal treatment of conference-servicing staff as well as the principle of equal grade for equal work at the four main duty stations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the major goals of the reform of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management are to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of those services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the compatibility of technologies used in all duty stations and to ensure that they are user-friendly in all official languages;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to complete the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents onto the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis, so that these archives are also available to Member States through that medium;

7. *Reiterates* that the satisfaction of Member States is a key performance indicator in conference management and conference services;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that measures taken by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, as a key performance indicator of the Department, provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly, through the Committee on Conferences, on progress made in this regard;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore best practices and techniques in client satisfaction evaluations and to report on a regular basis to the General Assembly on the results achieved;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to explore innovative ways to systematically capture and analyse feedback from Member States and committee chairpersons and secretaries on the quality of conference services and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly apprised of progress made in integrated global management;

12. *Takes note* of the outcome of the work of the integrated global management task forces, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that administrative policies, practices and procedures of conference services developed on the basis of recommendations of the task forces are in full compliance with relevant General Assembly resolutions;

IV

Documentation and publication-related matters

1. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

3. *Stresses* that matters related to conference management, including documentation, fall within the purview of the Fifth Committee;

4. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the rules concerning the simultaneous distribution of documents in all official languages are followed with respect to both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the United Nations website, in keeping with section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222;

5. *Reaffirms its decision* in section III, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/265 that the issuance of documents on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to direct all departments of the Secretariat to include the following elements in their reports:

(*a*) Summary of the report;

(*b*) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(*c*) Relevant background information;

7. *Reiterates its request* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat and intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take steps to improve the quality and accuracy of meeting records in all six official languages through full reliance in the preparation and translation of those records on sound recordings and written texts of statements as they were delivered in the original languages;

9. *Notes with concern* the continued high level of late submission of documentation by author departments, which, in turn, has a negative impact on the functioning of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, through the Committee on Conferences, on impediments, if any, to achieving full compliance with the ten-week and six-week rules for the issuance of pre-session documents, including, where appropriate, proposed measures to address such impediments;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the concordance principle in order to ensure equally valid texts of resolutions in all six official languages;

V

Translation and interpretation-related matters

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all official languages;

2. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General make sure that the terminology used in the translation and interpretation services reflects the latest linguistic norms and terminology of the official languages in order to ensure the highest quality;

3. *Reaffirms* section IV, paragraph 3, of its resolution 59/265, section IV, paragraph 4, of its resolution 60/236 B and section V, paragraph 3, of its resolution 61/236, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General, when recruiting temporary assistance in the language services, ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of their services, with full respect for the specificities of each of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

4. *Requests* the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat to conduct a comprehensive review of the existing special arrangements governing the recruitment of temporary assistance staff in the language services at the four main duty stations, in particular as regards their compliance with relevant staff regulations and rules and General Assembly mandates in the field of human resources management, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session through the Committee on Conferences;

5. *Expresses continued concern* at the high vacancy rate in the interpretation and translation services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, especially the chronic difficulty in staffing the Arabic Interpretation Unit, and requests the Secretary-General to address this as a matter of priority through, inter alia, assistance from Member States in advertising and facilitating the conduct of competitive examinations to fill these language vacancies;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to hold competitive examinations for the recruitment of language staff sufficiently in advance so as to fill current and future vacancies in the language services in a timely manner, bearing in mind the persistent situation at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-third session of efforts in this regard;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken by the Secretariat to fill current and future vacancies at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and requests the Secretary-General to consider further measures aimed at decreasing the vacancy rates in Nairobi as an exceptional case and to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-third session of efforts in this regard;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to address the issue of succession planning by enhancing internal and external training programmes, developing staff exchange programmes among organizations and participating in outreach to institutions that train language staff for international organizations;

9. *Takes note* of the challenges presented by the demographic situation in the language services, as described in paragraphs 87 to 89 of the report of the Secretary-General,[24] requests the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary to avoid any negative impact on the quality of translation and interpretation and to report thereon, as appropriate;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, including through the language-specific informational meetings held twice a year, and to ensure that such measures provide equal opportunities to Member

States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the accuracy of translation of documents into the official languages, giving particular significance to the quality of translation;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take the steps necessary to enhance translation quality in all official languages, in particular for contractual translation, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

13. *Takes note* of the information contained in paragraphs 90 to 92 of the report of the Secretary-General,[24] and requests the Secretary-General to provide at all duty stations adequate staff at the appropriate grade level, with a view to ensuring appropriate quality control for external translation;

14. *Notes* the performance measurement matrix proposed by the Secretary-General in response to the request to develop a comprehensive methodology for performance measurement and management from a full-system perspective, and looks forward to receiving the indicators for all duty stations beginning in 2008;

15. *Takes note* of the information on the impact of freelance recruitment on the quality of interpretation at all duty stations, contained in paragraphs 99 and 100 of the report of the Secretary-General,[24] welcomes the measures proposed in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the issue to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session through the Committee on Conferences;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the experience, lessons learned and best practices of the main duty stations in performing quality control of contractual translations, including on requirements relating to the number and appropriate level of the staff needed to carry out this function.

RESOLUTION 62/226

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/536, para. 6)

62/226. Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolutions 31/192 of 22 December 1976, 50/233 of 7 June 1996, 54/16 of 29 October 1999, 55/230 of 23 December 2000, 56/245 of 24 December 2001, 57/284 A and B of 20 December 2002, 58/286 of 8 April 2004, 59/267 of 23 December 2004, 60/258 of 8 May 2006, 61/238 of 22 December 2006 and 61/260 of 4 April 2007,

Having considered the annual report of the Joint Inspection Unit on its activities,[25]

1. *Recalls* its resolution 61/260;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the annual report of the Joint Inspection Unit;[25]

3. *Welcomes* the change in the Unit's annual planning process, and notes with appreciation the positive impact that it has had on coordination with other United Nations oversight bodies;

4. *Encourages* the Unit, in the ongoing implementation of its mandate, to continue to coordinate with the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services to maximize the use of resources and share experiences, knowledge, best practices and lessons learned;

5. *Looks forward* to considering the report of the Unit for 2007 and its programme of work for 2008 at the first part of its resumed sixty-second session;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full and timely implementation of oversight recommendations, requests the executive heads of the participating organizations to take the steps necessary to improve the rate of the implementation of the Unit's recommendations, and invites the legislative organs concerned to consider and take action in that regard;

7. *Urges* the Unit, as the only system-wide external oversight body, to continue to focus primarily its work and reports, whenever possible, on issues of system-wide interest, value and relevance to the efficient and effective functioning of all organizations to which the Unit provides services;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the information presented in the annual report concerning the expected savings as a result of the Unit's recommendations.

RESOLUTION 62/227

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/565, para. 7)

62/227. United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/198 of 21 December 1989, 51/216 of 18 December 1996, 52/216 of 22 December 1997,

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[25] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/62/34).

53/209 of 18 December 1998, 55/223 of 23 December 2000, 56/244 of 24 December 2001, 57/285 of 20 December 2002, 58/251 of 23 December 2003, 59/268 of 23 December 2004, 60/248 of 23 December 2005 and 61/239 of 22 December 2006,

Recalling also paragraph 8 of its resolution 61/274 of 29 June 2007,

Having considered the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2007,[26]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Reaffirming the statute of the Commission[27] and the central role of the Commission and the General Assembly in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the International Civil Service Commission;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission for 2007,[26] and decides to consider the recommendations contained in paragraph 21 of the report under the agenda items on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 and the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991;

3. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to urge the heads of the organizations of the United Nations common system to fully support the work of the Commission, in conformity with its statute,[27] by providing it with relevant information in a timely manner for studies that it conducts under its statutory responsibilities for the common system, as well as by other possible means;

I

Recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission that call for decisions by the General Assembly

A. Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

1. Evolution of the margin

Recalling section I.B of its resolution 51/216 and the standing mandate from the General Assembly, in which the Commission is requested to continue its review of the relationship between the net remuneration of the United Nations staff in the Professional and higher categories in New York and that of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service) employees in comparable positions in Washington, D.C. (referred to as "the margin"),

1. *Notes* that the margin between net remuneration of the United Nations staff in grades P-1 to D-2 in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service in Washington, D.C., for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2007 is estimated at 114.0 and that the average margin level for the past five years (2003–2007) stands at 112.3;

2. *Reaffirms* that the range of 110 to 120 for the margin between the net remuneration of officials in the Professional and higher categories of the United Nations in New York and officials in comparable positions in the comparator civil service should continue to apply, on the understanding that the margin would be maintained at a level around the desirable midpoint of 115 over a period of time;

2. Base/floor salary scale

Recalling its resolution 44/198, by which it established a floor net salary level for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service,

Approves, with effect from 1 January 2008, as recommended by the Commission in paragraph 30 of its report,[26] the revised base/floor scale of gross and net salaries for staff in the Professional and higher categories contained in annex III to the report;

B. Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff: language incentive

Takes note of the recommendations of the Commission contained in paragraph 65 of its report;[26]

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[26] Ibid., *Supplement No. 30* and corrigendum (A/62/30 and Corr.1).

[27] Resolution 3357 (XXIX), annex.

II

Strengthening of the international civil service

1. *Reaffirms* that the staff of the United Nations is an invaluable asset of the Organization, and commends its contribution to furthering the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Commission to strengthen its role and improve its functioning, as set out in paragraphs 68 to 72 of its report,[26] and encourages the Commission to continue this process.

RESOLUTION 62/228

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/597, para. 7)

62/228. Administration of justice at the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 57/307 of 15 April 2003, 59/266 of 23 December 2004, 59/283 of 13 April 2005 and 61/261 of 4 April 2007,

Emphasizing the importance for the United Nations to have an efficient and effective system of administration of justice so as to ensure that individuals and the Organization are held accountable for their actions in accordance with relevant resolutions and regulations,

Reaffirming its decision in paragraph 4 of resolution 61/261 to establish a new, independent, transparent, professionalized, adequately resourced and decentralized system of administration of justice consistent with the relevant rules of international law and the principles of the rule of law and due process to ensure respect for the rights and obligations of staff members and the accountability of managers and staff members alike,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/261,[28] on the administration of justice,[29] on the outcome of the work of the Joint Appeals Board during 2005 and 2006 and statistics on the disposition of cases and work of the Panel of Counsel [30] and on the activities of the Ombudsman,[31] the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[32] and the letter dated 20 November 2007 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee,[33]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 61/261,[28] on the administration of justice,[29] on the outcome of the work of the Joint Appeals Board during 2005 and 2006 and statistics on the disposition of cases and work of the Panel of Counsel[30] and on the activities of the Ombudsman[31] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[32]

2. *Recalls* its decision 62/519 of 6 December 2007;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[34] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

I

New system of administration of justice

4. *Stresses* the importance of allocating adequate resources to establish the new system of administration of justice;

5. *Acknowledges* the evolving nature of the new system of administration of justice and the need to carefully monitor its implementation;

6. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring access for all staff members to the system of administration of justice, regardless of their duty station;

A. Scope

7. *Decides* that individuals who have access to the current system of administration of justice shall have access to the new system;

8. *Also decides* to revert to the issue of the scope of the system of administration of justice at the second part of its resumed sixty-second session, and requests information in this regard from the Secretary-General;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the daily paid workers in peacekeeping missions are made aware of their rights and obligations and that they have access to suitable recourse procedures within the framework of the United Nations;

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[28] A/61/891.

[29] A/62/294.

[30] A/62/179.

[31] A/62/311.

[32] A/61/936; and A/62/7/Add.7 (for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*).

[33] A/C.5/62/11.

[34] A/62/7/Add.7. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

B. Office of Administration of Justice

10. *Decides* to establish the Office of Administration of Justice, comprising the Office of the Executive Director and the Office of Staff Legal Assistance, as well as the Registries for the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal;

11. *Also decides* that the Office of the Executive Director is to consist of one Executive Director (D-2), one Special Assistant (P-4) and one Administrative Assistant (General Service (Other level)), and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that these positions are filled as a matter of priority but no later than 1 July 2008;

C. Office of Staff Legal Assistance

12. *Stresses* that professional legal assistance is critical for the effective and appropriate utilization of the available mechanisms within the system of administration of justice;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 23 of its resolution 61/261, reiterates its support for the strengthening of professional legal assistance for staff in order for staff to continue to receive legal assistance, and decides to establish the Office of Staff Legal Assistance to succeed the Panel of Counsel;

14. *Decides* that the Office of Staff Legal Assistance is to consist of one Chief of Unit (P-5), one Legal Officer (P-3), one Legal Officer (P-2) and three Legal Assistants (General Service (Other level)) in New York, and one Legal Officer (P-3) each in Addis Ababa, Beirut, Geneva and Nairobi;

15. *Also decides* that staff at all duty stations shall continue to have access to legal assistance;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a code of conduct regulating the activity of internal and external individuals providing legal assistance to staff to ensure their independence and impartiality;

17. *Reiterates* paragraph 24 of its resolution 61/261, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the progress made to establish a staff-funded scheme in the Organization that would provide legal advice and support to staff;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop incentives for staff and management, including through training opportunities, to enable and encourage staff to continue to participate in the work of the Office of Staff Legal Assistance;

19. *Decides* to revert to the issue of the mandate of the Office of Staff Legal Assistance at its sixty-third session;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on possible measures to encourage responsible use of the system of administration of justice;

21. *Recognizes* that the Office of Staff Legal Assistance and the Ombudsman have two distinct functions;

II

Informal system

22. *Recognizes* that the informal resolution of conflict is a crucial element of the system of administration of justice, and emphasizes that all possible use should be made of the informal system in order to avoid unnecessary litigation;

23. *Also recognizes* that the strengthening of the informal system may reduce recourse to the formal system, thereby avoiding unnecessary litigation;

24. *Stresses* the pivotal role of mediation in reconciling differences;

A. Office of the Ombudsman

25. *Reiterates its decision* to create a single integrated and decentralized Office of the Ombudsman for the United Nations Secretariat, funds and programmes, decides to establish the Office as from 1 January 2008, and urges the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman, the Office of the Joint Ombudsperson (United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Children's Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services) and the Office of the Mediator of the Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to strengthen the ongoing efforts for coordination and harmonization of standards, operating guidelines, reporting categories and databases;

26. *Decides* to establish branch offices for the Office of the Ombudsman in Bangkok, Geneva, Nairobi, Santiago and Vienna, each with one Regional Ombudsman (P-5) and one Administrative Assistant (General Service (Other level/Local level));

27. *Takes note* of paragraph 22 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[34]

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that staff at all duty stations have access to the Ombudsman;

29. *Endorses* the process of nomination and appointment of the Ombudsman, as set out in paragraphs 47 to 49 of the report of the Secretary-General[29] and recommended by the Redesign Panel on the United Nations system of administration of justice in its report;[35]

B. Mediation Division

30. *Endorses* paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[34] and decides to establish the Mediation Division as from 1 January 2008;

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[35] A/61/205.

C. Systemic issues

31. *Notes* section IV, on systemic issues, of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Ombudsman,[31] and emphasizes that the role of the Ombudsman is to report on broad systemic issues that he or she identifies, as well as those that are brought to his or her attention, in order to promote greater harmony in the workplace;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, in the context of human resources management, on specific measures taken to address systemic issues;

III

Formal system

33. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 19 to 24 of its resolution 61/261;

34. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring access for all staff to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal, and requests the Secretary-General to make provisions for the travel and related costs of staff whose physical presence before the Tribunals is deemed necessary by the Tribunals and for judges to travel as necessary to hold sessions at duty stations other than New York, Geneva and Nairobi, in particular in Bangkok, Santiago and Vienna;

A. Internal Justice Council

35. *Stresses* that the establishment of an internal justice council can help to ensure independence, professionalism and accountability in the system of administration of justice;

36. *Decides* to establish by 1 March 2008 a five-member Internal Justice Council consisting of a staff representative, a management representative and two distinguished external jurists, one nominated by the staff and one by management, and chaired by a distinguished jurist chosen by consensus by the four other members;

37. *Also decides* that the Internal Justice Council shall perform the following tasks:

(*a*) Liaise with the Office of Human Resources Management on issues related to the search for suitable candidates for the positions of judges, including by conducting interviews as necessary;

(*b*) Provide its views and recommendations to the General Assembly on two or three candidates for each vacancy in the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, with due regard to geographical distribution;

(*c*) Draft a code of conduct for the judges, for consideration by the General Assembly;

(*d*) Provide its views on the implementation of the system of administration of justice to the General Assembly;

38. *Further decides* that the Internal Justice Council shall be assisted, as appropriate, by the Office of Administration of Justice;

B. United Nations Dispute Tribunal and United Nations Appeals Tribunal

39. *Decides* to establish a two-tier formal system of administration of justice, comprising a first instance United Nations Dispute Tribunal and an appellate instance United Nations Appeals Tribunal as from 1 January 2009;

40. *Also decides* that judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal shall be appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Internal Justice Council;

41. *Further decides* to endorse the qualifications of the judges as set out in paragraphs 58 and 67 of the report of the Secretary-General[29] and as further described in its decision 62/519;

42. *Decides* that the United Nations Dispute Tribunal shall, initially, be composed of three full-time judges, to be located in New York, Geneva and Nairobi, and two half-time judges;

43. *Also decides* that further consideration should be given to cases before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal being decided by a panel of judges, depending on the nature of the cases, the workload of judges and the grounds for appeal, and requests the Secretary-General to present further proposals in this regard, including resource implications, to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-second session;

44. *Further decides* that the United Nations Appeals Tribunal shall be composed of seven members who will sit in panels of at least three;

45. *Decides* that judges shall serve only one non-renewable term of seven years on either the United Nations Dispute Tribunal or the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, with the exception of two of the initial judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and three of the initial judges of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, to be determined by drawing of lots, who shall serve three years and may consequently apply to the same Tribunal for a non-renewable term of seven years;

C. Registries

46. *Decides* to establish a Registry for the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in New York, Geneva and Nairobi and a Registry for the United Nations Appeals Tribunal in New York;

47. *Also decides* that the Registries will consist of one D-1 Registrar who will oversee the Registries and, for the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in New York, one P-5 Registrar, one P-2 Legal Officer and two General Service (Other level) Administrative Assistants; for the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in Geneva, one P-5 Registrar, one P-3 Legal Research Officer and two General Service (Other level) Administrative Assistants; for the United Nations Dispute Tribunal in Nairobi, one P-5 Registrar, one P-3 Legal Research Officer and two General Service (Local level) Administrative Assistants; and for the United Nations Appeals Tribunal in New York, one P-5 Registrar, one P-3 Legal Officer and two General Service (Other level) Administrative Assistants; and further decides to approve, as general temporary assistance in New York, the equivalent of one P-4 Information Technology Officer, one General Service (Other level) Information Technology Assistant and Legal Research Officer positions equivalent to P-4 in both Geneva and Nairobi;

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session terms of reference for the Registries, taking into account the current working methods of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

D. Disciplinary proceedings

49. *Decides* to endorse, in principle, the delegation of authority for disciplinary measures to heads of offices away from Headquarters and heads of missions/Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to present a report containing a detailed proposal regarding possible options for delegation of authority for disciplinary measures, including full delegation, as well as an assessment of possible implications for due process rights of staff members;

E. Management evaluation

50. *Emphasizes* the need to have in place a process for management evaluation that is efficient, effective and impartial;

51. *Reaffirms* the importance of the general principle of exhausting administrative remedies before formal proceedings are instituted;

52. *Decides* to establish an independent Management Evaluation Unit in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, with one Chief of Unit (P-5), two Legal Officers (P-4) and three Administrative Assistants (General Service (Other level)) and general temporary assistance equivalent to one P-4 Legal Officer position;

53. *Takes note* of paragraph 35 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[34]

54. *Emphasizes* the importance of prompt decisions and responses to formal requests for management evaluation, and decides that such evaluation should be completed in a timely manner, as soon as possible and within a limit of thirty calendar days for Headquarters and forty-five calendar days for offices away from Headquarters after the submission of such a request;

55. *Stresses* the importance of establishing adequate accountability measures for managers to ensure their timely response to management evaluation requests;

56. *Emphasizes* the importance for the United Nations to have an efficient and effective system of administration of justice so as to ensure that individuals and the Organization are held accountable for their actions in accordance with relevant resolutions and regulations;

IV

Transitional measures

57. *Recalls* paragraph 31 of its resolution 61/261, and urges the Secretary-General to intensify the efforts needed to clear the existing backlog of cases before the Panel on Discrimination and Other Grievances, Joint Appeals Boards, Joint Disciplinary Committees, Disciplinary Boards, the Administrative Law Unit, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

58. *Endorses* paragraphs 73, 74, 76 and 80 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[34]

59. *Decides* to revert to the issue of transitional arrangements at the second part of its resumed sixty-second session;

60. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult with the organizations which currently participate in the United Nations Administrative Tribunal with the aim of providing for an orderly transition to another system of their choosing, if they were not to join the new system of administration of justice;

V

Financial implications and cost-sharing arrangements

61. *Underlines* that the funding for administration of justice, based on cost-sharing arrangements, should be clear, predictable and secure;

62. *Decides* to approve the cost-sharing arrangement as outlined by the Secretary-General in paragraphs 161 and 162 of his report;[29]

63. *Urges* the Secretary-General to conclude cost-sharing arrangements with the relevant funds and programmes by July 2008;

64. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the arrangements for the provision of services of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal to the United Nations Relief and Works

Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the International Seabed Authority, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the International Court of Justice, the International Maritime Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;

VI

Further information

65. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-second session on the following:

(*a*) Draft statute for the United Nations Dispute Tribunal;

(*b*) Draft statute for the United Nations Appeals Tribunal that reflects the decisions contained in the present resolution and resolution 61/261;

(*c*) Jurisdiction of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal;

(*d*) Grounds of appeal before the United Nations Appeals Tribunal;

(*e*) Conditions under which the United Nations Dispute Tribunal may refer cases pending before it to mediation, including the requirement of the consent of the parties and the issue of time frames;

(*f*) A detailed proposal regarding the allocation of cases to the United Nations Dispute Tribunal, taking into account geographical accessibility, the type of cases and the number of cases;

(*g*) Compensation awarded by the tribunals and alternatives;

(*h*) The role of staff associations vis-à-vis the formal system of justice;

66. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide further information and recommendations, as appropriate, to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-second session, on the following:

(*a*) The different categories of non-staff personnel performing personal services for the Organization, including experts on mission, United Nations officials other than staff members of the Secretariat and daily workers;

(*b*) The types of dispute settlement mechanisms available to the different categories of non-staff personnel and their effectiveness;

(*c*) The types of grievances the different categories of non-staff personnel have raised in the past and what bodies of law are relevant to such claims;

(*d*) Any other mechanism that could be envisaged to provide effective and efficient dispute settlement to the different categories of non-staff personnel, taking into account the nature of their contractual relationship with the Organization;

67. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-third session on the following:

(*a*) The revised terms of reference for the Ombudsman, taking into account the changes in functions, presence and proposed locations;

(*b*) The results of the negotiations between the United Nations and other participating entities on cost-sharing arrangements for the system of administration of justice;

(*c*) Mechanisms for the formal removal of judges, definition of the "grounds of misconduct or incapacity" and the means for the establishment of such grounds in a specific case;

(*d*) Viable options for programme support cost/trust funds to share the cost of the new internal justice system;

VII

Other issues

68. *Invites* the Sixth Committee to consider the legal aspects of the reports to be submitted by the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the role of the Fifth Committee as the Main Committee entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

69. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that information concerning the details of the new system of administration of justice, in particular options for recourse, is readily accessible by all staff covered under the new system;

70. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to develop a comprehensive approach to address privacy rights of staff, including their right to confidentiality, and the responsibility of the Organization for ensuring the due process rights of its staff under investigation;

71. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on how information and communications technology can improve the functioning of the system of administration of justice.

RESOLUTION 62/229

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/598, para. 6)

62/229. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

I

Second performance report on the budget of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2006–2007

Having considered the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2006–2007, of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994,[36] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[37]

Recalling its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995 on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 60/241 of 23 December 2005 and 61/241 of 22 December 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2006–2007, of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994[36] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[37]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in section IV.A of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have contributed to the Voluntary Fund to support the activities of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and invites Member States to continue making voluntary contributions to the Tribunal both in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General;

4. *Notes with concern* the high vacancy rate at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, especially in the Office of the Prosecutor and the Registry, and urges the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to address this problem;

5. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2006–2007, the amount of 277,127,700 United States dollars gross (254,757,400 dollars net) approved in its resolution 61/241 for the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda shall be adjusted by the amount of 2,384,700 dollars gross (2,357,200 dollars net), for a total amount of 279,512,400 dollars gross (257,114,600 dollars net);

II

Budget of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2008–2009

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2008–2009,[38] and on the revised estimates arising from the effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation,[39]

Having also considered the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[37]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2008–2009,[38] and on the revised estimates arising from the effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation;[39]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[37] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of its resolution 61/241, and reaffirms the importance of the timely submission of reports on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in order to facilitate their proper consideration early in the session;

4. *Takes note* of section II.E of the report of the Secretary-General;[38]

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[36] A/62/557.

[37] See A/62/578.

[38] A/62/468.

[39] A/62/586.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include information on specific parameters of the management of the funds to be appropriated to meet future requirements for pension benefits of the judges of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and eligible beneficiaries in the context of the first performance report for the biennium 2008–2009;

6. *Decides* to revert to the issue of funding the pension-related liabilities of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda at its sixty-fourth session, taking into account the report of the Secretary-General requested in paragraph 11 of its resolution 61/262 of 4 April 2007;

7. *Also decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 a total amount of 267,356,200 dollars gross (247,466,600 dollars net) for the biennium 2008–2009, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

8. *Further decides* that the total assessment for 2008 under the Special Account amounting to 136,062,800 dollars, shall consist of:

(*a*) 133,678,100 dollars, being half of the estimated appropriation approved for the biennium 2008–2009;

(*b*) 2,384,700 dollars, being the increase in the final appropriation for the biennium 2006–2007 approved by the General Assembly in paragraph 5 of section I above;

9. *Decides* to apportion the amount of 68,031,400 dollars gross (63,045,250 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2008;

10. *Also decides* to apportion the amount of 68,031,400 dollars gross (63,045,250 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2008;

11. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 9 and 10 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 9,972,300 dollars approved for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for 2008.

Annex

Financing for the biennium 2008–2009 of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Estimated appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009	302 599 700	283 215 900
Revised estimates: effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation	6 287 100	5 781 300
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	(28 500 000)	(28 500 000)
Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	(13 030 600)	(13 030 600)
Estimated initial appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009	267 356 200	247 466 600
Total assessment for 2008	**136 062 800**	**126 090 500**
Comprising:		
(*a*) Requirements representing half of the estimated appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009	133 678 100	123 733 300
(*b*) Requirements arising from the final appropriation for the biennium 2006–2007	2 384 700	2 357 200
Of which:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2008	68 031 400	63 045 250
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2008	68 031 400	63 045 250

RESOLUTION 62/230

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/599, para. 6)

62/230. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

The General Assembly,

I

Second performance report on the budget of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2006–2007

Having considered the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2006–2007, of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[40] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[41]

Recalling its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which were resolutions 60/243 of 23 December 2005 and 61/242 of 22 December 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget, for the biennium 2006–2007, of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991[40] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[41]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in section III.A of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2006–2007, the amount of 326,573,900 United States dollars gross (297,130,500 dollars net) approved in its resolution 61/242 for the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia shall be adjusted by the amount of 22,405,400 dollars gross (19,062,200 dollars net), for a total amount of 348,979,300 dollars gross (316,458,000 dollars net);

II

Budget of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008–2009

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008–2009[42] and on the revised estimates arising from changes in rates of exchange and inflation,[43]

Having also considered the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[41]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2008–2009[42] and on the revised estimates arising from changes in rates of exchange and inflation;[43]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[41] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of its resolution 61/241 of 22 December 2006, and reaffirms the importance of the timely submission of reports on the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in order to facilitate their proper consideration early in the session;

4. *Takes note* of section II.E of the report of the Secretary-General;[42]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include information on specific parameters of the management of the funds to be appropriated to meet future requirements for pension benefits of the judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and eligible beneficiaries in the context of the first performance report for the biennium 2008–2009;

6. *Decides* to revert to the issue of funding of the pension-related liabilities of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia at its sixty-fourth session, taking into account the report of the Secretary-General requested in paragraph 11 of its resolution 61/262 of 4 April 2007;

7. *Also decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 a total amount of 347,566,900 dollars gross (316,472,100 dollars net) for the biennium 2008–2009, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

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[40] A/62/556.

[41] See A/62/578.

[42] A/62/374.

[43] A/62/586.

8. *Further decides* that the financing of the appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009 under the Special Account shall take into account the estimated income of 265,300 dollars for the biennium, which shall be set off against the aggregate amount of the appropriation;

9. *Decides* that the total assessment for 2008 under the Special Account, amounting to 196,100,900 dollars, shall consist of:

(*a*) 173,650,800 dollars, being half of the estimated appropriation approved for the biennium 2008–2009, after taking into account 132,650 dollars, which is half of the estimated income for the biennium of 265,300 dollars;

(*b*) 22,450,100 dollars, being the increase in the final appropriation for the biennium 2006–2007 approved by the General Assembly in paragraph 3 of section I above, after taking into account a decrease in income of 44,700 dollars for the biennium;

10. *Also decides* to apportion the amount of 98,050,450 dollars gross (88,605,150 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2008;

11. *Further decides* to apportion the amount of 98,050,450 dollars gross (88,605,150 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2008;

12. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 10 and 11 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 18,890,600 dollars approved for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for 2008.

Annex

Financing for the biennium 2008–2009 of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Estimated appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009	356 314 300	327 182 400
Revised estimates: effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation	24 952 600	22 989 700
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	(16 600 000)	(16 600 000)
Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	(17 100 000)	(17 100 000)
Estimated initial appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009	347 566 900	316 472 100
Less:		
Estimated income for the biennium 2008–2009	(265 300)	(265 300)
Total assessment for 2008	**196 100 900**	**177 210 300**
Comprising:		
(*a*) Requirements representing half of the estimated appropriation for the biennium 2008–2009, after taking into account 132,650 dollars, which is half of the estimated income for the biennium 2008–2009 of 265,300 dollars	173 650 800	158 103 400
(*b*) Requirements arising from the final appropriation for the biennium 2006–2007, after taking into account a decrease in income of 44,700 dollars for the biennium 2006–2007	22 450 100	19 106 900
Of which:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2008	98 050 450	88 605 150
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2008	98 050 450	88 605 150

RESOLUTION 62/231

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/600, para. 6)

62/231. Transfer of buildings to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 58/557 of 23 December 2003, in which the it expressed its appreciation to the Government of Italy for offering five additional buildings to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, and approved their transfer,

Recalling also financial regulation 3.11 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[44]

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the transfer of buildings to the United Nations Logistics Base,[45] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[46]

1. *Notes with appreciation* the offer by the Government of Italy of six additional buildings and twelve open areas to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy;

2. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the transfer of buildings to the United Nations Logistics Base;[45]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[46]

4. *Approves* the transfer of the six additional buildings and twelve open areas pledged by the Government of Italy to the United Nations Logistics Base.

RESOLUTION 62/232

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/601, para. 6)

62/232. Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 61/279 of 29 June 2007,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur,[47] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[48] and the letter dated 2 October 2007 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly,[49] and recognizing that the costs of the Operation are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1769 (2007) of 31 July 2007, by which the Council established the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur for an initial period of twelve months as from 31 July 2007,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Operation with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolution of the Security Council,

Noting the hybrid nature of the Operation, and in that regard stressing the importance of ensuring full coordination of efforts between the African Union and the United Nations at the strategic level, unity of command at the operational level and clear delegation of authority and accountability lines,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and 61/276 of 29 June 2007, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the

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[44] ST/SGB/2003/7.

[45] A/62/548.

[46] A/62/559.

[47] A/62/380.

[48] A/62/540.

[49] A/62/379.

reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of interaction and coordination with troop-contributing countries;

5. *Recalls* section I, paragraph 6, of its resolution 55/238 of 23 December 2000 and paragraph 11 of its resolution 56/241 of 24 December 2001, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, of the Secretariat, taking into account their contribution to United Nations peacekeeping;

6. *Also recalls* that the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur should have a predominantly African character and that the troops should, as far as possible, be sourced from African countries;

7. *Reaffirms*, in the context of all Security Council decisions on peacekeeping operations, the prerogatives of the General Assembly in issues related to administrative and budgetary matters;

8. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

9. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

10. *Recalls* the unique nature and mandate of each operation, and stresses that the resource requirements should be commensurate with the mandates and complexities of each operation;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Operation;

12. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[48] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

13. *Takes note* of paragraphs 37, 40, 46, 48, 66, 68, 70 and 74 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

14. *Decides* to establish 13 posts for the Conduct and Discipline Team and 14 positions to be funded from general temporary assistance;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 35 of its resolution 61/279, and decides to approve 13 posts (4 P-5, 8 P-4 and 1 General Service) for the Integrated Operational Team in order to provide backstopping for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, the United Nations Mission in the Sudan and the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad, to be financed through the support account for peacekeeping operations, and requests the Secretary-General to report expenditures thereon for the financial period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 in the performance report for the period;

16. *Looks forward* to the finalizing of the exchange of letters between the United Nations and the African Union as set out in the report of the Secretary-General;[47]

17. *Notes with concern* that the budget of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 was not submitted in a results-based-budgeting format, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the budget of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 is submitted in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on the preparation of budgets for peacekeeping missions;

18. *Reaffirms* its resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare the budgets of peacekeeping operations in full compliance with that resolution;

19. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to integrate operational, logistical and financial aspects fully in the planning phase of peacekeeping operations by linking results-based budgeting to the mandate implementation plans of peacekeeping operations;

20. *Reaffirms* the importance of ensuring that the work undertaken during the planning phase preceding the deployment of missions is as effective and accurate as possible, and emphasizes the importance of drawing on lessons learned;

21. *Takes note* of the large scope and number of extraordinary measures contained in the letter from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly;[49]

22. *Notes with concern* the recurrent application of extraordinary measures in peacekeeping operations;

23. *Stresses* the need for effective management and mitigation of risks in all phases of United Nations peacekeeping missions;

24. *Underlines* the risks inherent in the use of extraordinary measures, and stresses the importance of adequate advance planning to avoid the application of such measures;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the financial regulations and rules of the Organization are abided by and fully upheld in all phases of the Operation;

26. *Reaffirms* the need for the procurement system to be transparent, open, impartial and cost-effective, based on competitive bidding and fully reflecting the international character of the United Nations;

27. *Notes with concern* the decision of the Secretary-General to utilize a single-source contract without competitive bidding, and requests the Secretary-General to take immediate action to supply goods and services in compliance with the established procedures for procurement, based on international competitive bidding and the widest possible geographical base of procurement, so as to avoid a non-competitive extension of the present contract;

28. *Recalls* its resolution 54/14 of 29 October 1999 regarding the need to take steps to ensure that specifications are not deliberately tailored to predetermine the choice of supplier and that the principle of separation of responsibilities of the requisitioning and approving officers is maintained;

29. *Encourages* the use of procurement within the region for the requirements of missions, taking into account efficiency and cost-effectiveness;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat to undertake a comprehensive review of the use of the extraordinary measures for the Operation contained in the letter from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly;[49]

31. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure full respect for all legislative mandates, and notes with concern that the Secretary-General did not respond to its request contained in paragraphs 13 and 14 of its resolution 61/289 of 29 June 2007;

32. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to further explore, without prejudice to the distinct mandates, resources, roles and areas of operation of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan and the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, the scope for synergies and cooperation between the two missions, where possible, and to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the budgets of the missions for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his 2008/09 budget submission details of the mechanisms that exist at Headquarters and in the field for ensuring coordination and collaboration among all United Nations actors active in the relevant mission area;

34. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that future budgets of the Operation contain sufficient information, explanation and justification of the proposed resource requirements relating to its operational costs in order to allow Member States to take well-informed decisions;

35. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to review the structure of the Operation and the allocation of posts and their grade levels as personnel are deployed and on the basis of actual workloads and experience gained, and to reflect that ongoing review in future budget submissions;

36. *Underlines* the need for the deployment of staff of the Operation to be phased in order to conform to its operational needs as it evolves and to its support capacity, and stresses in this regard that during its start-up phase the principal focus of the Operation should be to ensure that core capacity is quickly put in place;

37. *Also underlines* the need for the deployment of civilian staff to be phased in accordance with the deployment of military and police personnel;

38. *Notes* that the Secretary-General proposes to create 548 volunteer positions, of which only 4 would be for nationals of the Sudan, and requests the Secretary-General to explore ways of increasing to 48.the number of nationals of the Sudan;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266 and 61/276;

40. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Operation is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

41. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Operation against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Operation;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

42. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur for the purpose of accounting for the income received and expenditure incurred in respect of the Operation;

43. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur the amount of 1,275,653,700 United States dollars for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 for the establishment of the Operation;

Financing of the appropriation

44. *Also decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 1,275,653,700 dollars for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 of 22 December 2006, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2007 and 2008, as set out in its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

45. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 44 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 11,380,200 dollars, representing the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Operation;

46. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

47. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Operation, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

48. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Operation in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

49. *Decides* to keep under review during its sixty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur".

RESOLUTION 62/233

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/602, para. 6)

62/233. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad[50] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[51]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1778 (2007) of 25 September 2007, by which the Council approved the establishment in Chad and the Central African Republic, in consultation with the authorities of Chad and the Central African Republic, of a multidimensional presence, and decided that the multidimensional presence should include, for a period of one year, a United Nations mission in the Central African Republic and Chad,

Recognizing that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolution of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals, in full accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and 61/276 of 29 June 2007 and other relevant resolutions;

2. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional

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[50] A/62/544.

[51] A/62/572.

burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

4. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

5. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

7. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[51] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his 2008/09 budget submission details of the mechanisms that exist at Headquarters and in the field for ensuring coordination and collaboration among all the United Nations actors active in the relevant Mission area;

9 *Notes* that the Secretary-General did not propose an integrated mission, and recognizes the importance of coordination and collaboration among the Mission and the United Nations actors active in the Mission area;

10. *Underlines* the need for the deployment of staff to be phased in order to conform to the operational needs of the Mission as it evolves and to the support capacity of the Mission, and stresses in this regard that, during a mission's start-up phase, the principal focus of the mission should be to get core capacity in place quickly;

11. *Also underlines* the need for the deployment of civilian staff to be phased in accordance with the deployment of the European Union operation and the Mission's police personnel, as well as with adequate security provision on the ground;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that future budgets contain sufficient information, justification and explanation of the proposed resource requirements relating to the operational costs of the Mission to allow Member States to take well-informed decisions;

13. *Notes with concern* that the budget of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 was not submitted in a results-based-budgeting format, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the budget of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 is submitted in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on the preparation of budgets for peacekeeping missions;

14. *Reaffirms* its resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare the budgets of peacekeeping operations in full compliance with that resolution;

15. *Decides* to establish 2 posts for the Conduct and Discipline Team and 2 positions to be funded from general temporary assistance;

16. *Approves* the utilization of general temporary assistance equivalent to 1 P-4 for the establishment of a Best Practices Officer position, pending consideration of the report requested in section V, paragraph 2, of its resolution 61/276;

17. *Stresses* the need for the best practices function to be performed from the start-up phase of the Mission, including the possibility of using the capacity of the Peacekeeping Best Practices Section at Headquarters;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266 and 61/276;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

20. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Expenditure report for the period from 1 March to 30 June 2007

21. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad for the purpose of accounting for the income received and expenditure incurred in respect of the Mission;

22. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad the amount of 1,114,100 United States dollars, previously authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the establishment of the advance mission in Chad and the Central African Republic, for the period from 1 March to 30 June 2007, under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994;

Financing of the appropriation for the period from 1 March to 30 June 2007

23. *Also decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 1,114,100 dollars for the period from 1 March to 30 June 2007, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 of 22 December 2006, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2007, as set out in its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

24. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 23 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 10,100 dollars, representing the estimated staff assessment income approved for the advance mission for the period from 1 March to 30 June 2007;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

25. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad the amount of 182,444,000 dollars for the establishment and maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, inclusive of the amount of 45,828,200 dollars previously authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the advance mission in Chad and the Central African Republic under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A;

Financing of the appropriation for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

26. *Also decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 182,444,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2007 and 2008 as set out in its resolution 61/237;

27. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 26 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 2,537,000 dollars, representing the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008;

28. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

29. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

30. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

31. *Decides* to keep under review during its sixty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad".

RESOLUTION 62/234

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/605, para. 6)

62/234. Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and financing of the Procurement Task Force

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities[52] and the related notes by the Secretary-General,[53] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of the programme and administrative management of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia[54] and the related note by the Secretary-General,[55] the report of the Office of Internal

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[52] A/61/264 (Part I) and Add.1; and A/62/281 (Part I) and Add.1.

[53] A/61/264 (Part I)/Add.2; and A/62/281 (Part I)/Add.2.

[54] A/61/61.

[55] A/61/61/Add.1

Oversight Services on the audit of the activities of the United Nations Thessaloniki Centre for Public Service Professionalism,[56] the report of the Secretary-General on the Procurement Task Force,[57] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the activities of the Procurement Task Force[58] and the related note by the Secretary-General,[59] and the report of the Secretary-General on the resource requirements for procurement investigations[60] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[61]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities[52] and the related notes by the Secretary-General,[53] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inspection of the programme and administrative management of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia[54] and the related note by the Secretary-General,[55] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the activities of the United Nations Thessaloniki Centre for Public Service Professionalism,[56] the report of the Secretary-General on the Procurement Task Force[57] and the report of the Secretary-General on the resource requirements for procurement investigations;[60]

2. *Regrets* the piecemeal manner in which the investigations-related issues contained in these reports have been presented to the General Assembly for its consideration;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[61] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to conduct an overall review of the capacity of the Investigations Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat by 30 June 2008, and that the review will include, inter alia, the activities of the Procurement Task Force;

5. *Notes* the ad hoc nature of the Procurement Task Force and, in accordance with regulations 7.6 and 7.7 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[62] requests the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to request the Board of Auditors to conduct an audit of the activities of the Task Force for the period from 1 January 2006 to 30 June 2007, including its compliance with established transparency and accountability measures of the Organization and the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and to report thereon separately to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-third session;

6. *Decides* to revert to the consideration of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the activities of the Procurement Task Force[58] and the related note by the Secretary-General[59] at the first part of the resumed sixty-second session;

7. *Recalls* its resolutions 61/275 and 61/279 of 29 June 2007, and decides to revert to the consideration of the report on the overall review of the capacity of the Investigations Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services at the first part of the resumed sixty-second session;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the report referred to in paragraph 7 above to the attention of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations.

RESOLUTIONS 62/235 A and B

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/603, para. 7)

62/235. Programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007

A

FINAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2006–2007

The General Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the second performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007,[63] and endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[64]

2. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2006–2007:

(*a*) The amount of 4,302,005,000 United States dollars appropriated by it in its resolutions 61/253 A of 22 December 2006, 61/258 of 26 March 2007 and 61/275 of 29 June 2007 shall be decreased by 113,232,600 dollars, as follows:

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[56] A/62/176.

[57] A/61/603.

[58] A/62/272.

[59] A/62/272/Add.1.

[60] A/62/520.

[61] A/62/7/Add.15. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[62] ST/SGB/2003/7.

[63] A/62/575.

[64] A/62/589.

Section		*Amount approved in resolutions 61/253 A, 61/258 and 61/275*	*Increase/ (decrease)*	*Final appropriation*
			(United States dollars)	
	Part I. *Overall policymaking, direction and coordination*			
1.	Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	77 286 500	1 306 800	78 593 300
2.	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	602 512 500	(15 425 800)	587 086 700
	Subtotal, part I	**679 799 000**	**(14 119 000)**	**665 680 000**
	Part II. *Political affairs*			
3.	Political affairs	808 773 400	(80 489 300)	728 284 100
4.	Disarmament	20 471 500	(695 000)	19 776 500
5.	Peacekeeping operations	96 670 600	(5 314 500)	91 356 100
6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	6 175 700	346 100	6 521 800
	Subtotal, part II	**932 091 200**	**(86 152 700)**	**845 938 500**
	Part III. *International justice and law*			
7.	International Court of Justice	36 785 000	2 073 200	38 858 200
8.	Legal affairs	42 153 000	418 000	42 571 000
	Subtotal, part III	**78 938 000**	**2 491 200**	**81 429 200**
	Part IV. *International cooperation for development*			
9.	Economic and social affairs	157 474 100	(4 882 200)	152 591 900
10.	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	5 052 700	(242 500)	4 810 200
11.	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	10 803 100	(1 959 100)	8 844 000
12.	Trade and development	117 152 900	(3 393 300)	113 759 600
13.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	26 901 500	493 800	27 395 300
14.	Environment	12 286 600	864 000	13 150 600
15.	Human settlements	18 289 400	1 284 000	19 573 400
16.	International drug control, crime prevention and criminal justice	32 838 400	1 618 500	34 456 900
	Subtotal, part IV	**380 798 700**	**(6 216 800)**	**374 581 900**
	Part V. *Regional cooperation for development*			
17.	Economic and social development in Africa	107 404 200	(5 251 800)	102 152 400
18.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	74 664 800	6 108 800	80 773 600
19.	Economic development in Europe	57 110 000	743 200	57 853 200
20.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	97 180 100	(1 925 900)	95 254 200
21.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	56 324 600	2 650 200	58 974 800
22.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	46 881 400	598 600	47 480 000
	Subtotal, part V	**439 565 100**	**2 923 100**	**442 488 200**
	Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*			
23.	Human rights	88 009 100	(6 480 800)	81 528 300
24.	Protection of and assistance to refugees	67 031 200	1 470 400	68 501 600

Section		*Amount approved in resolutions 61/253 A, 61/258 and 61/275*	*Increase/ (decrease)*	*Final appropriation*
			(United States dollars)	
25.	Palestine refugees	36 731 300	1 555 400	38 286 700
26.	Humanitarian assistance	26 566 000	(130 900)	26 435 100
	Subtotal, part VI	**218 337 600**	**(3 585 900)**	**214 751 700**
	Part VII. *Public information*			
27.	Public information	178 851 800	(7 887 100)	170 964 700
	Subtotal, part VII	**178 851 800**	**(7 887 100)**	**170 964 700**
	Part VIII. *Common support services*			
28A.	Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management	20 560 500	368 300	20 928 800
28B.	Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts	32 917 500	(1 848 000)	31 069 500
28C.	Office of Human Resources Management	67 557 400	1 968 800	69 526 200
28D.	Office of Central Support Services	245 453 800	267 700	245 721 500
28E.	Administration, Geneva	107 192 800	(348 400)	106 844 400
28F.	Administration, Vienna	35 297 400	1 020 200	36 317 600
28G.	Administration, Nairobi	19 645 200	3 463 500	23 108 700
	Subtotal, part VIII	**528 624 600**	**4 892 100**	**533 516 700**
	Part IX. *Internal oversight*			
29.	Internal oversight	30 943 800	(1 140 600)	29 803 200
	Subtotal, part IX	**30 943 800**	**(1 140 600)**	**29 803 200**
	Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*			
30.	Jointly financed administrative activities	7 799 200	1 683 100	9 482 300
31.	Special expenses	93 478 900	(1 744 700)	91 734 200
	Subtotal, part X	**101 278 100**	**(61 600)**	**101 216 500**
	Part XI. *Capital expenditures*			
32.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	78 532 000	25 627 900	104 159 900
	Subtotal, part XI	**78 532 000**	**25 627 900**	**104 159 900**
	Part XII. *Safety and security*			
33.	Safety and security	195 537 800	(23 162 400)	172 375 400
	Subtotal, part XII	**195 537 800**	**(23 162 400)**	**172 375 400**
	Part XIII. *Development Account*			
34.	Development Account	16 480 900	71 000	16 551 900
	Subtotal, part XIII	**16 480 900**	**71 000**	**16 551 900**
	Part XIV. *Staff assessment*			
35.	Staff assessment	442 226 400	(6 911 800)	435 314 600
	Subtotal, part XIV	**442 226 400**	**(6 911 800)**	**435 314 600**
	Total	**4 302 005 000**	**(113 232 600)**	**4 188 772 400**

(*b*) The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee;

(*c*) In addition to the appropriations approved under subparagraph (*a*) above, an amount of 75,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 2006–2007 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment;

(*d*) To increase the provision under section 34, Development Account, by the amount of 5 million dollars.

B

FINAL INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2006–2007

The General Assembly,

Resolves that, for the biennium 2006–2007:

(*a*) The estimates of income of 492,248,800 United States dollars approved by it in its resolutions 61/253 B of 22 December 2006, 61/258 of 26 March 2007 and 61/275 of 29 June 2007 shall be increased by 12,930,700 dollars, as follows:

Income section	*Amount approved in resolutions 61/253 B, 61/258 and 61/275*	*Increase/(decrease)*	*Final estimate*
		(United States dollars)	
1. Income from staff assessment	446 666 400	(7 156 500)	439 509 900
Subtotal, income section 1	**446 666 400**	**(7 156 500)**	**439 509 900**
2. General income	41 641 400	20 238 900	61 880 300
3. Services to the public	3 941 000	(151 700)	3 789 300
Subtotal, income sections 2 and 3	**45 582 400**	**20 087 200**	**65 669 600**
Total	**492 248 800**	**12 930 700**	**505 179 500**

(*b*) The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

(*c*) Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications not provided for under the budget appropriations shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

RESOLUTION 62/236

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/563/Add.1, para. 48), by a recorded vote of 142 to 1, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: None

62/236. Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 58/270 of 23 December 2003 and 60/246 of 23 December 2005,

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 42/211 of 21 December 1987, 45/248 B, section VI, of 21 December 1990, 55/231 of 23 December 2000, 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 60/247 A to C of 23 December 2005 and 61/254 of 22 December 2006,

Reaffirming also the respective mandates of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in the consideration of the proposed programme budget,

Reaffirming further the role of the General Assembly, through the Fifth Committee, in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of posts and financial resources, as well as of human resources policies,

Recognizing the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009,[65] the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund,[66] the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[67] chapter III.B of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[68] and the report of the Secretary-General on the changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009,[69]

Stressing that the established procedures for the formulation, approval and implementation of the programme budget must be maintained and strictly followed,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[70] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

Policy issues

2. *Decides* that the staffing table for the biennium 2008–2009 shall be as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters;

4. *Also reaffirms* rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

5. *Further reaffirms* that no changes to the budget methodology, to established budgetary procedures and practices or to the financial regulations may be implemented without prior review and approval by the General Assembly, in accordance with established budgetary procedures;

6. *Reaffirms* the established budgetary procedures and methodology, based on its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strictly abide by the above-mentioned established budgetary procedures and methodology in future budget submissions;

8. *Stresses* that all Member States should fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations on time, in full and without conditions;

9. *Notes with concern* the piecemeal approach to the budget process, and requests the Secretary-General, for all future proposed programme budgets, to take the necessary steps to avoid such a piecemeal approach to the budget process and ensure the fullest possible picture of the Organization's requirements for future bienniums;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in preparing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011, to ensure full compliance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 55/231 and 58/269 and with the relevant recommendations made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination, bearing in mind the intergovernmental, multilateral and international character of the United Nations;

11. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the information necessary to enable Member States to make well-informed decisions;

12. *Reiterates* the priorities of the Organization for the period 2008–2009 as outlined in its resolution 61/235 of 22 December 2006;

13. *Also reiterates* that the allocation of resources should reflect fully the priorities established in the biennial programme plan;[71]

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[65] A/62/6 (Introduction) and Corr.1, (Sects. 1–3), (Sect. 4) and Corr.1, (Sects. 5–7), (Sect. 8) and Corr.1, (Sects. 9–11), (Sect. 12) and Corr.1, (Sect. 13) and Add.1, (Sects. 14–18), (Sect. 19) and Corr.1, (Sects. 20–22), (Sect. 23) and Corr.1, (Sect. 24) and Corr.1, (Sects. 25–27), (Sect. 28), (Sect. 28A) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28B) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28C) and Corr.1, (Sect. 28D), (Sect. 28E) and Corr.1 and 2, (Sects. 28F and G), (Sect. 29) and Corr.1, (Sects. 30–35), (Income sects. 1–3) and A/62/91.

[66] A/62/229.

[67] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/62/7 and Corr.1); A/62/7/Add.1 and Corr.1 (for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*); and A/62/349.

[68] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/62/16).

[69] A/62/80/Add.1.

[70] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/62/7 and Corr.1).

[71] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/61/6/Rev.1).

14. *Emphasizes* that the resources proposed by the Secretary-General should be commensurate with all mandated programmes and activities in order to ensure their full, efficient and effective implementation;

15. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as contained in chapter III.B of its report;[68]

16. *Approves* the changes to programme 4, Peacekeeping operations, of the biennial programme plan for the period 2008–2009, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General;[69]

17. *Also approves* the changes to the programme narratives of section 6, Peaceful uses of outer space; section 9, Economic and social affairs; section 11, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development; and section 23, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget, as reflected in the reports and statements of programme budget implications submitted by the Secretary-General;[72]

18. *Emphasizes* that programmes and activities mandated by the General Assembly must be respected and implemented fully in the most effective and efficient manner;

19. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in paragraph 40 of its report;[70]

20. *Reaffirms* section II of its resolution 61/244 of 22 December 2006;

21. *Also reaffirms* paragraph 22 of its resolution 61/266 of 16 May 2007;

Accountability

22. *Recalls* its resolutions 61/245 of 22 December 2006 and 61/279 of 29 June 2007, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General specifically define accountability as well as clear accountability mechanisms, including to the General Assembly, and propose clear parameters for its application and the instruments for its rigorous enforcement, without exception, at all levels, during the sixty-second session;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to achieve greater transparency at all levels;

Extrabudgetary funding

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011, to submit estimates of the total amount of resources, from all sources of financing, that he should have at his disposal to be able to implement fully the mandated programmes and activities efficiently and effectively;

25. *Encourages* donors to continue, where appropriate, to increase their contributions to the core budgets of the departments of the Secretariat;

Results-based budgeting

26. *Reaffirms* paragraph 28 of its resolution 55/231, stresses the importance of results-based budgeting and the need for adequate training to ensure its full implementation, and looks forward to its review at future sessions;

Budget presentation

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in future budget submissions, to propose measures to offset budget increases, wherever possible, without undermining the implementation of mandated programmes and activities;

28. *Decides* that supplementary financial information being presented to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, including, inter alia, detailed explanations of requirements by component and source of funds and by object of expenditure, should also be made available to Member States, including through the Fifth Committee website;

Vacancy rates and staffing

29. *Expresses concern* at the high vacancy rate, especially in the Professional category of posts, in certain areas of the Organization, particularly in some duty stations and regional commissions, emphasizes in this regard its negative impact on the effective delivery of mandated programmes and activities, and requests the Secretary-General to recruit staff expeditiously through proper planning and by streamlining personnel practices and procedures to undertake necessary measures to reduce the vacancy rates;

30. *Reaffirms* that the vacancy rate is a tool for budgetary calculations and should not be used to achieve budgetary savings;

31. *Also reaffirms* that deliberate management decisions to keep a certain number of posts vacant should not be taken, as this action makes the budget process less transparent and the management of human and financial resources less efficient;

32. *Takes note* of paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[70]

33. *Notes* the practice of incremental budgeting where only new requirements are justified, and requests the Secretary General to ensure that whenever new proposals lead to requests for additional resources, sufficient effort is made to meet the new requirements using existing resources;

34. *Recalls* its resolution 35/217 of 17 December 1980, reaffirms the role of the General Assembly with regard to the structure of the Secretariat, including the creation, conversion, suppression and redeployment of posts, and requests the

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[72] A/C.5/62/12, A/C.5/62/14, A/C.5/62/15, A/C.5/62/19, A/C.5/62/20, A/62/125 and A/62/515.

Secretary-General to continue to provide the Assembly with comprehensive information on all decisions involving established and temporary high-level posts, including equivalent positions financed from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary resources;

35. *Reiterates* that any transfer of resources between posts and non-post objects of expenditures would require the approval of the General Assembly;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat to include in its report on the evaluation of human resources management, as requested in its resolution 61/235, a comprehensive review of the implementation of the recruitment, promotion and mobility policies of United Nations staff over the past five years and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session in the context of human resources management;

37. *Recalls* paragraph VIII.85 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[70] and encourages the Secretary-General to ensure uniformity of performance targets in the Secretariat, taking into account the unique circumstances of each duty station and regional commission with regard to the filling of vacant posts, and to apply lessons learned as a means to improve performance in timely recruitment;

38. *Notes* the need for more justification to substantiate the creation of new posts or the reclassification of existing posts;

39. *Recalls* its decision to authorize the Secretary-General to have limited budgetary discretion for the bienniums 2006–2007 and 2008–2009, in accordance with section III of its resolution 60/283 of 7 July 2006;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite recruitment for P-2 posts, in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

41. *Decides* that a vacancy rate of 6.5 per cent for Professional staff, 3.5 per cent for General Service staff and 27.2 per cent for field security staff shall be used as a basis for the calculation of the budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

Non-post costs

42. *Decides* to maintain the resources for travel of staff, contractual services and general operating expenses at the 2006–2007 level after recosting, and also decides that the relevant adjustments should not be applied to travel provisions of the regional commissions;

43. *Also decides* to reduce non-post resources by 2 per cent, other than for travel of staff, contractual services and general operating expenses;

Consultants

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to select consultants and experts, as well as staff charged against general temporary assistance, on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 53/221 of 7 April 1999;

Information technology and conference servicing

45. *Affirms* the importance of compatibility of all information technology resources within and across duty stations, and stresses that the resources requested for this purpose in the current budget should be fully integrated in the future enterprise resource system;

46. *Stresses* that the information and communications technology strategy should be implemented in a manner that will benefit all Headquarters departments, field missions, duty stations and regional commissions and their subregional offices, bearing in mind the different operational needs and environments within which they function;

47. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring that there is no discriminatory treatment among the principal organs of the United Nations and the Main Committees and subsidiary bodies and that they are provided with adequate and quality conference servicing and support;

Training

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate the approved resources for training on the basis of need and in an equitable manner, throughout the Secretariat, including for duty stations and regional commissions, and in this context stresses that equal training opportunities should be available for all staff, in accordance with their functions and categories;

49. *Stresses* that workshops, seminars and training courses should take advantage of the diverse sources of training opportunities available throughout the regions of the world;

Part I
Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

Section 1
Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

50. *Reaffirms* Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations;

51. *Stresses* the importance of strengthened accountability in the Organization and of ensuring greater accountability of the Secretary-General to Member States, inter alia, for the effective and efficient implementation of legislative mandates and the use of human and financial resources;

52. *Also stresses* the importance of accountability and responsiveness of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly;

53. *Emphasizes* that the Executive Office of the Secretary-General should lead the entire Organization in the context of reflection of geographical distribution and gender balance, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and the efficient utilization of non-post resources;

54. *Stresses* that members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions shall discharge their duties in full independence and in the sole interest of the Organization and its entire membership;

55. *Recognizes* the increase in the workload of, as well as the increased diversity and complexity of the questions examined by, the Advisory Committee without a commensurate increase in the staffing of the Committee secretariat;

56. *Decides* to approve one P-4 post to strengthen the staffing of the secretariat of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to review the functions of the post in the context of his next budget submission;

Section 2
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General ensure that all duty stations are given equal treatment in respect of the application of modern technologies;

58. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of those services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

59. *Notes* the critical importance of the services provided by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to expedite the filling of all vacant posts in the Department in accordance with established procedures;

60. *Takes note* of paragraph I.25 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[70]

61. *Decides* to approve seven P-5 positions for Senior Revisers at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

62. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve the on-time submission of documents and to institute measures for the accountability of the author departments for the late submission of the documents in the context of the report requested in its resolution 62/225 of 22 December 2007;

63. *Decides* not to approve a D-2 post proposed for the Director of the Central Planning and Coordination Division in New York;

64. *Also decides* to defer the establishment of a P-4 post proposed for the position of Deputy Chief of the Information Management and Technology Unit of the Central Planning and Coordination Division in New York until the start of the implementation of the information and communications technology reform plan;

65. *Welcomes* the efforts made in workload-sharing among the duty stations, and requests the Secretary-General actively to pursue efficiencies to be gained through possible workload-sharing in conference services among United Nations Headquarters and other duty stations;

Part II
Political affairs

Section 3
Political affairs

66. *Regrets* the high vacancy rate in authorized posts for the United Nations Register of Damage caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and urges the Secretary-General to expedite the filling of these posts as a matter of priority;

67. *Emphasizes* the need for collaboration between the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, of the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure systemic cooperation so as to prevent duplication among the three departments;

68. *Takes note* of paragraph II.18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[70] and decides to approve the positions referred to under general temporary assistance;

69. *Decides* that the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support shall be appointed by the Secretary-General following consultations with Member States, that for this purpose the Secretary-General shall appoint the Assistant Secretary-General with due regard for geographical rotation and that in so doing he shall be guided by the provisions of paragraph 3 (*e*) of General Assembly resolution 46/232 of 2 March 1992, in which the Assembly decided, in particular, that, as a general rule, no national of a Member State should succeed a national of that State in a senior post and that there should be no monopoly on senior posts by nationals of any State or group of States;

70. *Also decides* that the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support shall serve for one fixed term of five years without possibility of renewal;

Section 5
Peacekeeping operations

71. *Regrets* the slow progress in recruitment for the posts approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/279 on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations, and urges the Secretary-General to fill the vacant posts as a matter of priority;

72. *Deeply regrets* that the post of Under-Secretary-General for Field Support has not yet been filled, and requests the Secretary-General to expedite recruitment for this post, taking fully into account paragraph 2 of section IX of its resolution 61/244;

Part IV
International cooperation for development

Section 9
Economic and social affairs

73. *Recalls* its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, recognizes the need for strengthening of the development pillar of the United Nations Secretariat and the importance of strategic planning, and requests the Secretary-General to provide a comprehensive proposal at the first part of its resumed sixty-second session for its consideration with a view to improving the effective and efficient delivery of the mandates of the development-related activities of the Secretariat, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional commissions and the Development Account;

74. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fill one P-3 post for the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues expeditiously;

Section 10
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

75. *Urges* the Secretary-General to develop a concrete strategic action plan to achieve greater mobilization of resources to ensure that programme delivery can continue effectively;

76. *Notes with concern* the designation of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States as the focal point for the activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Liaison Office at United Nations Headquarters without the approval of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to restore the mandate of the New York Office of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

77. *Emphasizes* the crucial importance of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, established as the follow-up mechanism to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[73] the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries[74] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;[75]

78. *Notes with concern* a decrease of 61 per cent[76] in estimated extrabudgetary resources for the biennium 2008–2009 as compared to the biennium 2006–2007 and its detrimental impact on the overall programme delivery of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and requests the Secretary-General to mobilize adequate resources from all sources to support the mandates related to this programme during the biennium 2008–2009;

Section 11
United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

79. *Recalls* that the development of Africa is an established priority of the United Nations, and reaffirms the commitment to address the special needs of Africa;

80. *Also recalls* General Assembly resolution 57/300 of 20 December 2002 and other resolutions calling for the strengthening of mechanisms to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[77]

81. *Further recalls* paragraph IV.18 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[70]

82. *Notes with concern* that extrabudgetary resources for the biennium 2008–2009 represent a significant drop when compared to the biennium 2006–2007, and requests the Secretary-General to make greater efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources for this programme and to ensure that the special needs for Africa are fully addressed;

83. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to urgently fill the position of Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser for Africa as a matter of priority;

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[73] A/CONF.191/13, chap II.

[74] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

[75] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[76] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (A/62/7 and Corr.1), para. IV.14.

[77] A/57/304, annex.

Section 12
Trade and development

84. *Takes note with serious concern* of the decision of the Secretary-General to temporarily lend the post of Assistant Secretary-General from this programme to the United Nations Office at Geneva and its adverse implications for programme delivery, and requests the Secretary-General to restore the post to this programme and to undertake urgent measures to fill the post as a matter of priority;

Section 15
Human settlements

85. *Recalls* paragraph 114 of its resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to ensure stability and predictability in funding the activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including through the provision of sufficient human and financial resources within the regular budget of the United Nations;

Part V
Regional cooperation for development

86. *Emphasizes* the important contribution that the regional commissions are making towards the implementation of the development agenda and other mandates given to them arising from the outcome of the Millennium Summit[78] and other major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

87. *Reiterates its requests* to the Secretary-General to ensure a more balanced proportion of staff costs devoted to programme support in comparison with those devoted to the programme of work in all the regional commissions, in particular in the Economic Commission for Africa;

Section 17
Economic and social development in Africa

88. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's plan of action to enhance the role of the subregional offices of the Economic Commission for Africa;

89. *Recognizes* that the repositioning of the Economic Commission for Africa is a crucial element of reform shaping the work of the Commission for the biennium 2008–2009 and beyond, and notes that the repositioning will enhance the role of the Commission in strengthening coordination and collaboration among United Nations agencies and other agencies;

90. *Emphasizes* the key role of the Economic Commission for Africa in strengthening coordination and collaboration among United Nations agencies and other entities within the region;

Section 17B
Regional Commissions New York Office

91. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph V.25 of its report;[70]

92. *Decides* to establish one P-3 post for the Regional Commissions New York Office as from 2009 and to abolish one General Service (Principal level) post;

Section 20
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

93. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for more productive utilization of the allocated resources and the policy of recruiting national officers;

94. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in finalizing agreements for extrabudgetary funding of its projects with certain international financial institutions;

Section 22
Regular programme of technical cooperation

95. *Requests* the Secretary-General to streamline, in accordance with budgetary guidelines, the use of long-term advisers in the execution of projects under the regular programme of technical cooperation and to report thereon in the next budget submission;

96. *Welcomes* the introduction of results-based budgeting at the subprogramme level;

Part VI
Human rights and humanitarian affairs

Section 23
Human rights

97. *Regrets* the imbalance in the geographical distribution in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs;

98. *Recalls* its resolution 61/244, and requests the Secretary-General to implement urgent measures to improve the balance in the geographical distribution in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including through recruitment for newly established posts, and to report on the results achieved at its sixty-third session under the relevant agenda item;

99. *Notes* the importance of having information on monitoring the utilization of extrabudgetary resources for the activities of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

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[78] See resolution 55/2.

100. *Recognizes* that the overall amount appropriated for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for the biennium 2006–2007 represents a 36.6 per cent increase over the revised appropriation for the biennium 2004–2005, and decides to use the revised estimates for the biennium 2004–2005 as the baseline for the agreed doubling of resources for the Office;

101. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services to undertake a comprehensive review of human resources management in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the efficiency of the implementation of its mandate and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

102. *Notes with great concern* the late submission of revised estimates[79] relating to Human Rights Council decision 3/104 of 8 December 2006[80] and the inclusion of additional funds to be charged against the contingency fund rather than their inclusion in the original budget proposals for the biennium 2008–2009;

103. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006;

104. *Requests*, in this regard, the Human Rights Council to exercise greater financial discipline with due regard for regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[81] through endeavours such as seeking the most cost-effective measures to implement its mandates;

105. *Encourages* Member States participating in the Junior Professional Officer programme to increase sponsorship of Junior Professional Officers from developing countries;

106. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in proposing posts for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to ensure their conformity with relevant legislative mandates, including those of the Human Rights Council;

Section 25
Palestine refugees

107. *Reaffirms* its resolution 3331B (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, stating that expenses for salaries of international staff in the service of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, which would otherwise be a charge on voluntary contributions, should be financed by the regular budget of the United Nations for the duration of the Agency's mandate;

108. *Notes with concern* the significant reduction in the total resources for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East over the past ten years while the overall workload and responsibilities of the programme have continued to increase;

109. *Decides* to approve the establishment of the following posts for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East: one D-2 for regional fund-raising, one P-5 for a Senior Protection and Policy Adviser, one P-4 for assessment, monitoring and evaluation, and one P-4 for a Gender Adviser, and requests the Secretary-General to present proposals for new posts in the context of his next budget submission;

Part VII
Public information

Section 27
Public information

110. *Stresses* the importance of the status and image of the United Nations to enable effective implementation of its mandates, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the highest priority is given, in the context of the United Nations communication strategy, to the promotion and advocacy of the image of the United Nations in the face of frequent damaging reporting on United Nations activities;

111. *Also stresses* the importance of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to address effectively and in a timely manner any allegations of misconduct against peacekeepers, as well as other allegations against the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

112. *Further stresses* the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents in languages other than United Nations official languages, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all the corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization;

113. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote public awareness of and to mobilize support for the work of the United Nations at the local level through all possible means of communication, including publications, the broadcasting of news and the network of United Nations information centres, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations;

114. *Recognizes* the vital role of the United Nations information centres in promoting awareness about the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make efforts to mobilize resources for the effective functioning of United Nations information centres in developing countries;

115. *Notes* the gap among the six official languages on the United Nations website;

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[79] A/62/125.

[80] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. II.B.

[81] ST/SGB/2000/8.

116. *Reaffirms* the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website;

117. *Notes with concern* that three out of four established posts are still vacant in the Arabic Language Unit of the United Nations Web Services Section, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to fill the three vacancies as a matter of priority and to inform the General Assembly through the Committee on Information at its 2008 session;

118. *Notes* the importance of the Graphic Design Unit in communicating the messages of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to present proposals to enhance professional skills in this Unit in his next budget submission;

119. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to expand the scope of press releases in addition to the existing languages in order to widen the United Nations message, assuring their comprehensiveness and up-to-date nature;

120. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a review of the Secretariat's public information organizational framework, including a detailed explanation and analysis of its resources in all departments of the Secretariat at Headquarters, other duty stations and in field missions with a view to achieving increased coordination and efficiencies in the allocation of resources across the Secretariat;

121. *Recalls* paragraph VII.6 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[70] decides not to approve resources requested in paragraph 27.49 of the report of the Secretary-General,[82] and requests the Secretary-General to utilize the existing staff and resources of the Department of Public Information to support the special conferences while bearing in mind that the coverage of large-scale events may entail additional personnel, without prejudice to the source of funding;

Part VIII
Common support services

Section 28C
Office of Human Resources Management

122. *Regrets* that a P-5 post as requested for enhancing the outreach activities of the Office of Human Resources Management may not be sufficient to achieve the balance in recruitment as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/244;

Section 28D
Office of Central Support Services

123. *Decides* to reduce provisions under section 28D by 18 million United States dollars, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the impact of the reduction in the context of the performance report;

Section 28G
Administration, Nairobi

124. *Recalls* paragraph 101 of its resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997;

125. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue to bring the financial arrangements of the United Nations Office at Nairobi in line with those of similar United Nations administrative offices;

Part IX
Internal oversight

Section 29
Internal oversight

126. *Takes note* of paragraph IX.7 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[70]

127. *Decides* to redeploy a P-5 post from subprogramme 1, Internal audit, to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, for the function of a Special Assistant to the Under-Secretary-General at the P-5 level;

128. *Reaffirms* the central role of monitoring, inspection and evaluation in the programme planning process, and decides to continue the current arrangements under general temporary assistance for nine positions to strengthen subprogramme 2, Inspection and evaluation, one at the D-2 level, three at the P-3 level, four at the P-2 level and one General Service (Other level) post;

Part X
Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses

Section 30
Jointly financed administrative activities

129. *Decides* to establish one P-2 and one P-3 Research Officer post for the Inspections and Evaluations Group of the Joint Inspection Unit;

130. *Also decides* to abolish two General Service (Other level) posts for a Registry Clerk and a Research Assistant;

Part XII
Safety and security

Section 33
Safety and security

131. *Decides* not to reclassify a D-2 post to the Assistant Secretary-General level for the Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security;

132. *Also decides* not to establish a P-2 post for the function of Internal Affairs Officer in the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat.

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[82] See A/62/6 (Sect. 27).

Annex

Staffing table for the biennium 2008–2009

Category	*Number of posts*
Professional and above	
Deputy Secretary-General	1
Under-Secretary-General	29
Assistant Secretary-General	25
D-2	97
D-1	269
P-5	793
P-4/3	2 615
P-2/1	508
Subtotal	**4 337**
General Service	
Principal level	280
Other level	2 732
Subtotal	**3 012**
Other	
Security Service	306
Local level	1 907
Field Service	139
National Officer	52
Trades and Crafts	176
Subtotal	**2 580**
Total	**9 929**

RESOLUTIONS 62/237 A to C

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/563/Add.1, para. 48)

62/237. Programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009

A

BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008–2009

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 2008–2009:

1. Appropriations totalling 4,171,359,700 United States dollars are hereby approved for the following purposes:

Section		Amount (United States dollars)
	Part I. *Overall policymaking, direction and coordination*	
1.	Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	89 215 800
2.	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	629 339 800
	Subtotal	**718 555 600**
	Part II. *Political affairs*	
3.	Political affairs	495 609 200
4.	Disarmament	21 607 900
5.	Peacekeeping operations	101 412 700
6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	7 439 800
	Subtotal	**626 069 600**
	Part III. *International justice and law*	
7.	International Court of Justice	41 200 400
8.	Legal affairs	46 069 000
	Subtotal	**87 269 400**
	Part IV. *International cooperation for development*	
9.	Economic and social affairs	158 384 800
10.	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	5 440 400
11.	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	11 641 900
12.	Trade and development	123 746 100
13.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	28 099 800
14.	Environment	13 796 600
15.	Human settlements	20 520 800
16.	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	36 819 000
	Subtotal	**398 449 400**
	Part V. *Regional cooperation for development*	
17.	Economic and social development in Africa	119 798 200
18.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	83 926 400
19.	Economic development in Europe	59 917 100
20.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	104 445 000
21.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	58 107 500
22.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	50 951 400
	Subtotal	**477 145 600**

Section	Amount (United States dollars)
Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*	
23. Human rights	116 938 400
24. International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees	73 069 300
25. Palestine refugees	40 727 500
26. Humanitarian assistance	28 492 300
Subtotal	**259 227 500**
Part VII. *Public information*	
27. Public information	184 000 500
Subtotal	**184 000 500**
Part VIII. *Common support services*	
28. Management and support services	540 204 300
Subtotal	**540 204 300**
Part IX. *Internal oversight*	
29. Internal oversight	35 997 700
Subtotal	**35 997 700**
Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*	
30. Jointly financed administrative activities	11 459 300
31. Special expenses	97 011 600
Subtotal	**108 470 900**
Part XI. *Capital expenditures*	
32. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	58 782 600
Subtotal	**58 782 600**
Part XII. *Safety and security*	
33. Safety and security	197 169 300
Subtotal	**197 169 300**
Part XIII. *Development Account*	
34. Development Account	18 651 300
Subtotal	**18 651 300**
Part XIV. *Staff assessment*	
35. Staff assessment	461 366 000
Subtotal	**461 366 000**
Total	**4 171 359 700**

2. The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 75,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 2008–2009 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the library at the Palais des Nations in Geneva as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008–2009

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 2008–2009:

1. Estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling 515,460,600 United States dollars are approved as follows:

Income section		*Amount (United States dollars)*
1.	Income from staff assessment	465 780 400
2.	General income	47 946 900
3.	Services to the public	1 733 300
	Total	**515 460 600**

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, the sale of statistical products, catering operations and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications not provided for under the budget appropriations shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

C

FINANCING OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2008

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the year 2008:

1. Budget appropriations consisting of 2,085,679,850 United States dollars, being half of the appropriation of 4,171,359,700 dollars approved for the biennium 2008–2009 by the General Assembly in paragraph 1 of resolution A above, plus 19,876,500 dollars, being the increase in revised appropriations for the biennium 2006–2007 approved by the Assembly in its resolutions 61/258 of 26 March 2007, 61/275 of 29 June 2007 and 62/235 A of 22 December 2007, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 3.1 and 3.2 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[83] as follows:

(*a*) 44,927,300 dollars, consisting of 24,840,100 dollars, being the net of half of the estimated income other than staff assessment approved for the biennium 2008–2009 under resolution B above, plus 20,087,200 dollars, being the increase in income other than staff assessment for the biennium 2006-2007;

(*b*) 2,060,629,050 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 231,612,600 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 232,890,200 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the biennium 2008–2009 in resolution B above;

(*b*) Less 1,277,600 dollars, being the decrease in income from staff assessment for the biennium 2006–2007 approved by the Assembly in its resolutions 61/258 of 26 March 2007, 61/275 of 29 June 2007 and 62/235 B of 22 December 2007.

RESOLUTION 62/238

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/563/Add.1, para. 48)

62/238. Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009

The General Assembly,

I

International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

Having considered the programme budget proposals for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO for the biennium 2008–2009[84] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[85]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[85]

2. *Decides* to approve resources in the amount of 28,099,800 United States dollars (at the exchange rate of 1.2 Swiss francs to 1 dollar) proposed for the biennium 2008–2009 under section 13, International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

II

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[86] the report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the Board[87] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[88]

1. *Approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 131,996,500 dollars net for the biennium 2008–2009 and a revised estimate of 104,461,100 dollars net for the biennium 2006–2007 for the administration of the Fund;

2. *Also approves* an additional amount of 748,200 dollars above the level of resources set out in section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 as the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the central secretariat of the Fund;

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[83] ST/SGB/2003/7.

[84] A/62/6 (Sect. 13) and Add.1.

[85] A/62/7/Add.10. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[86] A/62/175.

[87] A/C.5/62/2.

[88] A/62/7/Add.3 and 13. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

III

Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

Recalling section IV of its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the work programme of the Institute for 2008–2009[89] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[90]

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[89]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[90]

3. *Approves* the request for a subvention to the Institute of 485,500 dollars for the biennium 2008–2009 from the regular budget of the United Nations, on the understanding that no additional provision would be required under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

IV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions of 2007[91] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[92]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[91]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[92]

3. *Notes* that provision for resource requirements for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women is considered in the report of the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[93]

V

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council[94] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[95]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[94]

2. *Regrets* the recurrent late submission of the reports on the matter under consideration, which hinders their proper examination by the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to present future budget proposals for the special political missions no later than the first week of November;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[95] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Notes* the insufficient level of collaboration between the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, of the Secretariat, with respect to special political missions, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure systemic cooperation so as to prevent duplication among the three departments;

5. *Stresses* the importance of clear reporting lines and accountability between special political missions and Headquarters;

6. *Recalls* its resolution 48/259 of 14 July 1994, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that functions and responsibilities of special envoys, special representatives and other special high-level positions are more clearly defined and streamlined, avoiding any possible duplication, and that the current financial regulations and budgetary procedures are fully complied with;

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[89] A/C.5/62/3.

[90] A/62/7/Add.5. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[91] A/62/515.

[92] A/62/7/Add.16. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[93] A/62/616.

[94] A/62/512 and Add.1–3, Add.4 and Corr.1 and Add.5.

[95] A/62/7/Add.29. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No 7A.*

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all special political missions are properly managed and all related post and non-post resources are fully and thoroughly justified;

8. *Decides* to revert to consideration of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the management of special political missions by the Department of Political Affairs[96] during its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates related to the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs;[97]

9. *Recalls* section I, paragraph 8, of its resolution 61/276 of 29 June 2007, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement relevant provisions of that resolution for special political missions, where applicable;

10. *Decides* to upgrade the position of the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide to the Under-Secretary-General level, and to establish an additional P-3 and an additional General Service (Other level) position in his office;

11. *Takes note* of paragraph 25 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[95] and approves the establishment of one new P-3 position for a Political Affairs Officer in the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon;

12. *Also takes note* of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 16 of its report,[95] and approves the proposal of the Secretary-General to finance the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia as from 1 January 2008, without prejudice to the consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates related to the strengthening of the Department of Political Affairs;[97]

13. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations related to special political missions;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and associated humanitarian personnel;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a new, complete and detailed proposal for the construction of the United Nations integrated compound in Baghdad, under section 32, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget, for its consideration at the first part of its resumed sixty-second session;

16. *Decides* to reduce the overall provision for special political missions for the biennium 2008–2009 by 200,150,000 dollars;

17. *Approves* the budgets totalling 386,587,300 dollars for the 26 special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council, which are presented in table 1 of the report of the Secretary-General;[98]

18. *Also approves* a charge totalling 386,587,300 dollars net against the provision for special political missions requested in section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

VI

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates under sections 2, 23, 27, 28E and 35 and income section 1 of the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 and a proposal related to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising from the implementation of decisions of the Human Rights Council[99] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[100]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[100] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Decides* to establish five P-5 posts for Senior Revisers for conference management, Geneva;

3. *Approves* net additional resource requirements for the biennium 2008–2009 amounting to 765,100 dollars, representing:

(*a*) A reduction of 307,400 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management;

(*b*) An increase of 1,072,500 dollars under section 23, Human rights;

(*c*) Additional resource requirements of 324,700 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

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[96] A/61/357.

[97] A/62/521 and Corr.1.

[98] A/62/512.

[99] A/62/125.

[100] A/62/7/Add.25. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

VII

Revised estimates under sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 to ensure operational preparedness and business continuity in a protracted human influenza pandemic crisis

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates under sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28C, 28D, 28E, 28F and 28G of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009 to ensure operational preparedness and business continuity in a protracted human influenza pandemic crisis[101] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[102]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[101]

2. *Stresses* the need for a comprehensive review of all business continuity measures, including human influenza pandemic and other kinds of emergency planning, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a comprehensive report on business continuity, including in the event of a pandemic, that is complementary to and compatible with the wider enterprise resource planning and information and communications technology reform, and to include information on the status of implementation of measures taken in that regard;

VIII

Development Account

Recalling its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 52/220 and 52/221 A of 22 December 1997, 52/235 of 26 June 1998, 53/220 A of 7 April 1999, 53/220 B of 8 June 1999, 54/15 of 29 October 1999, 56/237 of 24 December 2001 and 60/246 of 23 December 2005 and section IV of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Regretting the lack of allocation of sufficient resources for developing countries in order to enable them to better cope with developmental priorities, in particular the Millennium Development Goals and internationally agreed development goals,

Recognizing the importance of building appropriate intellectual capacities in the developing countries to help them achieve the Millennium Development Goals and more broadly the internationally agreed development goals, which constitute additional financial and technical obligations,

Stressing the failure of the prescribed modalities for identification of resources to finance the Development Account,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Development Account,[103] his fifth annual progress report on the implementation of projects financed from the Development Account[104] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[105]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the Development Account[103] and his fifth annual progress report on the implementation of projects financed from the Development Account,[104] and encourages him to work further towards identifying resources from possible reductions in administration and other overhead costs for transfer to the Development Account;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[105] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* the role and prerogative of Member States in setting the priorities of the Organization, as reflected in legislative decisions;

4. *Stresses* that the Development Account is one of the appropriate tools to cope with the evolving needs of the global development agenda;

5. *Notes with concern* that the Secretary-General has not fulfilled the mandates contained in resolution 52/12 B and subsequent resolutions on the Development Account;

6. *Recognizes* that the current modalities for financing the Development Account, which is to be funded from savings achieved as a result of the efficiency measures that can be identified in the context of budget performance reports, have not proved successful;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of section IV of its resolution 61/252;

8. *Also recalls* that the amount of 2.5 million dollars was appropriated under section 34, Development Account, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007 as an immediate exceptional measure towards addressing the lack of transfer of resources to the Account since its inception;

9. *Notes with deep concern* that the Secretary-General has not been able to define a procedure to track and identify efficiency gains in the context of budget performance reports and that he has not been able to provide recommendations to the General Assembly on how additional resources in the region of 2.5 million dollars could be added to the Development Account;

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[101] A/62/328.

[102] A/62/7/Add.2 and Corr.1. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[103] A/62/466.

[104] A/62/123.

[105] A/62/7/Add.6. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

10. *Notes with concern* the lack of options in the report of the Secretary-General[103] for tangible, predictable and sustainable funding for the Development Account;

11. *Decides* to appropriate an additional 2.5 million dollars for the Development Account;

12. *Stresses* that the appropriation referred to in paragraph 11 above is an exceptional measure towards addressing the lack of transfer of resources to the Account since its inception;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 5 of its resolution 52/235;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to fully comply with its resolution 52/12 B and subsequent resolutions on the Development Account;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on the implementation of the present section;

IX

Construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

Recalling section II of its resolution 61/252,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[106] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[107]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, as host country, in facilitating the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[106] and endorses the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[107]

X

Construction of additional conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre

Recalling section I of its resolution 61/252,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[108] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[109]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the Government of Austria, as host country, to construct conference facilities at the Vienna International Centre;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[108] and endorses the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[109]

XI

Supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague

Recalling section VII of its resolution 52/222 of 22 December 1997,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague[110] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[111]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[110]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[111]

3. *Approves* the amendments to the supplementary agreement contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General;

XII

Financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Recalling section II of its resolution 61/273 of 29 June 2007,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women[112] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[113]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[112]

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[106] A/62/487.

[107] A/62/7/Add.11. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[108] A/62/358.

[109] A/62/7/Add.9. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[110] A/62/496.

[111] A/62/7/Add.8. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

[112] A/62/509.

[113] A/62/7/Add.12. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[113]

3. *Reiterates its appeal* to Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute voluntary funds in support of the Institute and to honour existing pledges in a timely manner;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that continue to contribute to and support the activities of the Institute;

5. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the management and the Executive Board of the Institute for their efforts that have helped the Institute to secure sustainable financing;

XIII

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2007,[114] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[115]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[114]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[115]

XIV

United Nations Postal Administration

Recalling its resolutions 57/292 of 20 December 2002 and 61/233 A of 22 December 2006 and section III of its resolution 61/252 of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration[116] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[117]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[116]

2. *Notes* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[117]

3. *Takes note* of paragraphs 9 to 11 of the report of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to continue taking measures, alternative to the establishment of a contingent liability reserve, to eliminate risks posed to the United Nations Postal Administration by mass mailing and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the progress achieved;

4. *Decides* to consider at its sixty-third session the establishment of a contingent liability reserve for the United Nations Postal Administration as a solution to the issue of reducing the risk posed to the Postal Administration by the use of its services for commercial and bulk mail, on the basis of any future recommendations of the Board of Auditors and updated information provided by the Secretary-General on this issue;

XV

Standards of accommodation for air travel

Recalling its resolution 42/214 of 21 December 1987, section IV, paragraph 14, of its resolution 53/214 of 18 December 1998 and section IV of its resolution 60/255 of 8 May 2006,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on standards of accommodation for air travel and on the review of the standards of travel and entitlements for staff members, members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and entities of the United Nations system,[118] the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system,[119] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon[120] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[121]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[118]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system[119] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon;[120]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on

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[114] A/62/336.

[115] A/62/353; and A/62/7/Add.1 and Corr.1 (for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*).

[116] A/61/900.

[117] A/62/350.

[118] A/61/188 and Corr.1 and A/61/801.

[119] See A/60/78.

[120] A/60/78/Add.1.

[121] A/61/661.

Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[122] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Takes note* of the recommendation in paragraph 7 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[121]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Chief Executives Board, to report on the feasibility of harmonizing standards of travel for staff members, members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system, on the basis of a review and proposals by the Chief Executives Board, taking due consideration of the specificity of the work and mandates of the different entities of the system;

XVI

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 12,191,000 dollars remains in the contingency fund;[123]

XVII

Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from the effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation[124] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[125]

Takes note of the revised estimates arising from recosting due to the effects of changes in the rates of exchange and inflation;

XVIII

Joint Inspection Unit

Approves the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 2008–2009 in the amount of 11,633,000 dollars;

XIX

International Civil Service Commission

Approves the gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 2008–2009 in the amount of 17,777,000 dollars;

XX

Administration of justice

Recalling its resolution 62/228 of 22 December 2007 on the administration of justice at the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to approve a total amount of 17,010,200 dollars under the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009, reflecting an increase comprised of 11,860,400 dollars under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, 1,737,300 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 41,300 dollars under section 17, Economic and social development in Africa, 92,700 dollars under section 18, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, 98,100 dollars under section 20, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, 37,500 dollars under section 21, Economic and social development in Western Asia, 326,700 dollars under section 28A, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, 269,500 dollars under section 28C, Office of Human Resources Management, 1,297,600 dollars under section 28D, Office of Central Support Services, 167,800 dollars under section 28E, Administration, Geneva, 1,119,200 dollars under section 35, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under Income section 1, Income from staff assessment, partially offset by reductions of 23,800 dollars under section 28F, Administration, Vienna, and 14,100 dollars under section 28G, Administration, Nairobi, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009;

2. *Also decides* that the amount of 305,300 dollars shall be financed from the resources approved for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, to be reported to the General Assembly in the context of the performance report on the support account for the period;

XXI

Use of 300-series and 100-series appointments

1. *Recalls* section XIV of its resolution 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and section VIII of its resolution 61/276 of 29 June 2007;

2. *Decides* to continue to suspend the application of the four-year maximum limit for appointments of limited duration until 30 June 2008;

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind paragraph 2 above, to reappoint, under the 100 series of the Staff Rules, those mission staff whose service under 300-series contracts has reached the four-year limit by 30 June 2008, provided that their functions have been reviewed and found necessary and their performance has been confirmed as fully satisfactory, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

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[122] A/61/661 and A/62/351.

[123] See A/C.5/62/22.

[124] A/62/587.

[125] A/62/7/Add.30. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A.*

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the practice of using 300-series contracts as the primary instrument for the appointment of new staff;

XXII

United Nations Office for Partnerships

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Office for Partnerships[126] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[127]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[126]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[127]

XXIII

Gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security

Approves the gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security for the biennium 2008–2009 in the amount of 200,126,100 dollars, broken down as follows:

(*a*) Field Security Operations: 172,417,700 dollars;

(*b*) Security and Safety Services at the United Nations Office at Vienna: 27,708,400 dollars.

RESOLUTION 62/239

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/563/Add.1, para. 48)

62/239. Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 2008–2009

The General Assembly

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations[128] and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments in the biennium 2008–2009 to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising either during or subsequent to the biennium, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(*a*) Such commitments not exceeding a total of 8 million United States dollars in any one year of the biennium 2008–2009 as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(*b*) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

(i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the International Court of Justice, Article 31), not exceeding a total of 200,000 dollars;

(ii) The calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50) and the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

(iii) The maintenance in office for the completion of cases of judges who have not been re-elected (Statute, Article 13, paragraph 3), not exceeding a total of 40,000 dollars;

(iv) The payment of pensions and travel and removal expenses of retiring judges and travel and removal expenses and installation grants of members of the Court (Statute, Article 32, paragraph 7), not exceeding a total of 410,000 dollars;

(v) The work of the Court or its Chambers away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of 25,000 dollars;

(*c*) Such commitments not exceeding a total of 1 million dollars in the biennium 2008–2009 as the Secretary-General certifies are required for security measures pursuant to section XI, paragraph 6, of General Assembly resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004;

2. *Resolves* that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee and to the General Assembly at its sixty-third and sixty-fourth sessions all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. *Decides* that, for the biennium 2008–2009, if a decision of the Security Council results in the need for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security in an amount exceeding 10 million dollars in respect of the decision, that matter shall be brought to the General Assembly, or, if the Assembly is suspended or not in session, a resumed or special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

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[126] A/62/220.

[127] A/62/363.

[128] ST/SGB/2003/7.

RESOLUTION 62/240

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/563/Add.1, para. 48)

62/240. Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2008–2009

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for the biennium 2008–2009 in the amount of 150 million United States dollars;

2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale of assessments adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Member States to the budget for the year 2008;

3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:

(*a*) Credits to Member States resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from the surplus account to the Working Capital Fund in an adjusted amount of 1,025,092 dollars;

(*b*) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2006–2007 in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 60/250 of 23 December 2005 and 60/283 of 7 July 2006;

4. Should the credits and advances paid by any Member State to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 2006–2007 exceed the amount of that Member State's advance under the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by the Member State in respect of the biennium 2008–2009;

5. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(*a*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for that purpose;

(*b*) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments that may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 62/239 of 22 December 2007 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(*c*) Such sums as may be necessary to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities which, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed 200,000 dollars; advances in excess of 200,000 dollars may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(*d*) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the biennium in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each biennium, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each biennium;

(*e*) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

6. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in the biennium 2008–2009, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.

RESOLUTION 62/241

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2007, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/563/Add.2, para. 9), by a recorded vote of 140 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Canada

62/241. Questions related to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/208 of 11 December 1986 and 48/225 of 23 December 1993 and sections II and IV of its resolution 61/240 of 22 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[129] the report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the Board[130] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[131]

1. *Concurs* with the recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[131] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive review of services provided by the Fund, funded through section 1, Overall, policymaking, direction and coordination, of the programme budget, and to report thereon in the context of the programme budget for the biennium 2010–2011;

3. *Encourages* the Fund, when submitting performance reports, to consider the feasibility of an extension of the reporting period for actual expenditures and a shortening, accordingly, of the reporting period for projected estimates;

4. *Takes note* of the information set out in annex V to the report of the Board[129] on the need for a more strategic approach to the human resources requirements of the Fund;

5. *Concurs* with the request made by the Board that the Chief Executive Officer of the Fund and the Representative of the Secretary-General for investments undertake an overall review of the staffing and organizational structure in their respective areas, including drawing on relevant industry benchmarks and best practice and report on the results of the review to the Board at its fifty-fifth session;[132]

6. *Notes* that all requests by the Fund for the establishment of new information technology posts have been deferred by the Board until its fifty-fifth session, when a full enterprise resource planning project strategy, including a budget and project plan, will be presented to and considered by the Board;

7. *Urges* the Fund administration to make every possible effort to fill the existing vacancies in the staffing table as soon as feasible;

8. *Authorizes* the Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for the biennium 2008–2009 by an amount not exceeding 200,000 United States dollars;

9. *Stresses* the importance of securing the income replacement principle that is embodied in the regulations of the Fund and which has been consistently upheld by the International Civil Service Commission in its decisions and by the General Assembly in its resolutions;

10. *Approves* the ad hoc measure recommended by the Board to address adverse, unprecedented consequences of dollarization in Ecuador as an ad hoc, one-time, ex gratia, exceptional payment;

11. *Emphasizes* that this arrangement would not set a precedent for any future action by the Board.

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[129] A/62/175.

[130] A/C.5/62/2.

[131] A/62/7/Add.3 and 13. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 7A*.

[132] A/62/175, annex V, para. 19.

VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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RESOLUTION 62/61

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/446, para. 7)[1]

62/61. Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/83 of 12 December 2001, the annex to which contains the text of the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts, and further recalling its resolution 59/35 of 2 December 2004 commending the articles to the attention of Governments,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (*a*), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the subject of responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts is of major importance in relations between States,

Noting with appreciation the compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles, prepared by the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Commends once again* the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts to the attention of Governments, without prejudice to the question of their future adoption or other appropriate action;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Governments to submit their written comments on any future action regarding the articles;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to update the compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles and to invite Governments to submit information on their practice in this regard, and further requests the Secretary-General to submit this material well in advance of its sixty-fifth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts" and to further examine, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee, the question of a convention on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts or other appropriate action on the basis of the articles.

RESOLUTION 62/62

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/447, para. 7)[3]

62/62. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law and to an international order based on the rule of law and international law, which is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

Recalling its resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965, in which it established the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to contribute towards a better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and of promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Noting the significant contribution of the Programme of Assistance to a better knowledge of international law for more than four decades, as envisaged in the above-mentioned resolution,

Considering, nevertheless, that much remains to be done in this field,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance[4] and the views of the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, which are contained in that report,

Considering that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

Noting with appreciation the efforts made by States at the bilateral level to provide assistance in the teaching and study of international law,

Convinced, nevertheless, that States and international organizations and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme of Assistance and increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities which are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Poland on behalf of the Bureau.

[2] A/62/62 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[3] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

[4] A/62/503.

Reaffirming that in the conduct of the Programme of Assistance it would be desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international organizations and others,

Reaffirming also the hope that, in appointing lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programmes in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure the representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

1. *Approves* the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] in particular those designed to achieve the best possible results in the administration of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law within a policy of maximum financial restraint;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out in 2008 and 2009 the activities specified in his report, including the provision of:

(*a*) A number of international law fellowships in both 2008 and 2009, to be determined in the light of the overall resources for the Programme of Assistance and to be awarded at the request of Governments of developing countries;

(*b*) A minimum of one scholarship in both 2008 and 2009 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, subject to the availability of new voluntary contributions made specifically to this fellowship fund;

(*c*) Subject to the overall resources for the Programme of Assistance, assistance in the form of a travel grant for one participant from each developing country, who would be invited to possible regional courses to be organized in 2008 and 2009;

and to finance the above activities from provisions in the regular budget, when appropriate, as well as from voluntary financial contributions earmarked for each of the activities concerned, which would be received as a result of the requests set out in paragraphs 18 to 20 below;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his constructive efforts to promote training and assistance in international law within the framework of the Programme of Assistance in 2006 and 2007, in particular for the organization of the forty-second[5] and forty-third[6] sessions of the International Law Seminar, held at Geneva in 2006 and 2007, respectively, and for the activities of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat related to the International Law Fellowship Programme and to the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, carried out, respectively, through its Codification Division and its Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider admitting, for participation in the various components of the Programme of Assistance, candidates from countries willing to bear the entire cost of such participation;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to consider the relative advantages of using available resources and voluntary contributions for regional, subregional or national courses, as against courses organized within the United Nations system;

6. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary resources to the programme budget for the Programme of Assistance for the next and the future bienniums with a view to maintaining the effectiveness of the Programme of Assistance;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations legal publications prepared by the Office of Legal Affairs, and strongly encourages their continued publication;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs to bring up to date the United Nations legal publications;

9. *Also welcomes* the placing on the Internet of the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*,[7] the *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice*[8] and other legal information, as well as the expansion of the website of the International Law Commission[9] to include all its documentation;

10. *Further welcomes* the establishment of the website on the Programme of Assistance;[10]

11. *Notes* the need to safeguard and preserve the audiovisual history of legal developments within the United Nations, which constitutes an invaluable resource for promoting a better knowledge of international law;

12. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts made by the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs to revitalize, within available resources, the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, and urges States to make voluntary contributions to enable the Codification Division to develop and maintain the Library;

13. *Welcomes* the training and technical assistance activities in international law undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs in the framework of the Programme of Assistance, as

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[5] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/61/10), chap. XIII, sect. F.

[6] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/62/10), chap. X, sect. E.

[7] Available from www.un.org/law/riaa.

[8] Available from www.un.org/law/ICJsummaries.

[9] www.un.org/law/ilc.

[10] www.un.org/law/programmeofassistance.

described in the report of the Secretary-General, and encourages the continuation of such activities within available resources;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research for its participation in the Programme of Assistance through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

15. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for its participation in the Programme of Assistance through the activities described in the report of the Secretary-General;

16. *Further expresses its appreciation* to The Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme of Assistance, which has enabled candidates under the International Law Fellowship Programme to attend and participate in the Fellowship Programme in conjunction with the Academy courses;

17. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of The Hague Academy to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls upon Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme of Assistance and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme of Assistance or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

19. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and to interested organizations and individuals to make voluntary contributions, inter alia, for the International Law Seminar, the International Law Fellowship Programme, the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea and the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, institutions and individuals that have made voluntary contributions for this purpose;

20. *Urges* in particular all Governments to make voluntary contributions for the organization of regional courses in international law by the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs, in collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, especially with a view to covering the amount needed for the financing of the daily subsistence allowance for up to twenty-five participants in each regional course, thus alleviating the burden on prospective host countries and making it possible to continue to organize the regional courses;

21. *Decides* to appoint twenty-five Member States, six from Africa, five from Asia, three from Eastern Europe, five from Latin America and the Caribbean and six from Western European and other States, as members of the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance for a period of four years beginning on 1 January 2008;[11]

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance during 2008 and 2009 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to submit recommendations regarding the execution of the Programme of Assistance in subsequent years;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

RESOLUTION 62/63

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/448, para. 12)[12]

62/63. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/281 of 29 March 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation in paragraph 56 of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations[13] that the Secretary-General make available to the United Nations membership a comprehensive report on the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations,

Noting that the Secretary-General, on 24 March 2005, transmitted to the President of the General Assembly a report of his Adviser concerning sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping personnel,[14]

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[11] The following States have been appointed members of the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance: Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[12] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Greece on behalf of the Bureau.

[13] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part one, chap. III, sect. D.

[14] See A/59/710.

Recalling its resolution 59/300 of 22 June 2005 endorsing the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations[15] that a group of legal experts be established to provide advice on the best way to proceed so as to ensure that the original intent of the Charter of the United Nations can be achieved, namely that United Nations staff and experts on mission would never be effectively exempt from the consequences of criminal acts committed at their duty station, nor unjustly penalized without due process,

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law,

Reaffirming also that the present resolution is without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of United Nations officials and experts on mission and the United Nations under international law,

Reaffirming further the obligation of United Nations officials and experts on mission to respect the national laws of the host State, as well as the right of the host State to exercise, where applicable, its criminal jurisdiction, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing operations of United Nations missions,

Deeply concerned by reports of criminal conduct, and conscious that such conduct, if not investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted, would create the negative impression that United Nations officials and experts on mission operate with impunity,

Conscious of the importance of protecting the rights of victims of criminal conduct, as well as ensuring adequate protection for witnesses, and noting the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse,

Recalling its resolution 61/29 of 4 December 2006, establishing the Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Noting that the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, in paragraph 75 of its report,[16] looked forward to the conclusions of the Ad Hoc Committee,

Having considered the report of the Group of Legal Experts established by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 59/300[17] and the report of the Ad Hoc Committee,[18] as well as the note by the Secretariat on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,[19]

Convinced of the need for the United Nations and its Member States to urgently take strong and effective steps to ensure criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work done by the Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission and the Working Group of the Sixth Committee on the same subject;

2. *Strongly urges* States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission do not go unpunished and that the perpetrators of such crimes are brought to justice, without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of such persons and the United Nations under international law, and in accordance with international human rights standards, including due process;

3. *Strongly urges* all States to consider establishing to the extent that they have not yet done so jurisdiction, particularly over crimes of a serious nature, as known in their existing domestic criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, at least where the conduct as defined in the law of the State establishing jurisdiction also constitutes a crime under the laws of the host State;

4. *Encourages* all States to cooperate with each other and with the United Nations in the exchange of information and in facilitating the conduct of investigations and, as appropriate, prosecution of United Nations officials and experts on mission who are alleged to have committed crimes of a serious nature, in accordance with their domestic laws and applicable United Nations rules and regulations, fully respecting due process rights, as well as to consider strengthening the capacities of their national authorities to investigate and prosecute such crimes;

5. *Requests* the Secretariat to ensure that requests to Member States seeking personnel to serve as experts on mission make States aware of the expectation that persons who serve in that capacity should meet high standards in their conduct and behaviour and are aware that certain conduct may amount to a crime for which they may be held accountable;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to take such other practical measures as are within his authority to strengthen existing training on United Nations standards of conduct, including through predeployment and in-mission induction training for United Nations officials and experts on mission;

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[15] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part two, chap. II, sect. N.

[16] A/61/19 (Part II). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 19.*

[17] See A/60/980.

[18] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 54* (A/62/54).

[19] A/62/329.

7. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission shall reconvene from 7 to 9 and on 11 April 2008 for the purpose of continuing the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts, in particular its legal aspects, taking into account the views of Member States and the information contained in the note by the Secretariat, and that the work shall continue during the sixty-third session of the General Assembly within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

8. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring credible allegations that reveal that a crime may have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission to the attention of the States against whose nationals such allegations are made, and to request from those States an indication of the status of their efforts to investigate and, as appropriate, prosecute crimes of a serious nature, as well as the types of appropriate assistance States may wish to receive from the Secretariat for the purposes of such investigations and prosecutions;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution on the basis of information received from Governments, in particular with respect to paragraphs 3 and 9 above;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission".

RESOLUTION 62/64

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/449, para. 10)[20]

62/64. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fortieth session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Reaffirming its belief that the progressive modernization and harmonization of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting the developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity, common interest and respect for the rule of law, to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to peace, stability and the well-being of all peoples,

Having considered the report of the Commission on the work of the first part of its fortieth session,[21]

Reiterating its concern that activities undertaken by other bodies in the field of international trade law without adequate coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field, in particular to avoid duplication of efforts, including among organizations formulating rules of international trade, and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law, and to continue, through its secretariat, to maintain close cooperation with other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of the first part of its fortieth session;[21]

2. *Commends* the Commission for its work on the preparation of a legislative guide on secured transactions, which has been designed to facilitate secured financing, thus promoting increased access to low-cost credit and enhancing national and

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[20] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[21] A/62/17 (Part I). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 17*.

international trade, and notes with satisfaction that the Commission expects to complete that work in the nearest future;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Commission in its work on a revision of its Model Law on Procurement of Goods, Construction and Services[22] and of the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law,[23] and on the preparation of a draft instrument on transport law and on future developments in insolvency law, and endorses the decision of the Commission to undertake further work in the area of security interests;

4. *Endorses* the efforts and initiatives of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, aimed at increasing coordination of and cooperation on legal activities of international and regional organizations active in the field of international trade law, as well as promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels in this field, and in this regard appeals to relevant international and regional organizations to coordinate their legal activities with those of the Commission, to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with technical assistance and cooperation in the field of international trade law reform and development, and in this connection:

(*a*) Welcomes the initiatives of the Commission towards expanding, through its secretariat, its technical assistance and cooperation programme, and in that respect, encourages the Secretary-General to seek partnerships with State and non-State actors to increase awareness about the work of the Commission and facilitate the effective implementation of legal standards resulting from its work;

(*b*) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for carrying out technical assistance and cooperation activities, including at the country, subregional and regional levels, and for providing assistance with legislative drafting in the field of international trade law;

(*c*) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions enabled the technical assistance and cooperation activities to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, to the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in carrying out technical assistance activities, in particular in developing countries;

(*d*) Reiterates its appeal to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the technical assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission, in the light of the relevance and importance of the work and programmes of the Commission for promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels and for the implementation of the United Nations development agenda, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

6. *Takes note with regret* that, since the thirty-sixth session of the Commission, no contributions have been made to the trust fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General,[24] stresses the need for contributions to the trust fund in order to increase expert representation from developing countries at sessions of the Commission and its working groups, necessary to build local expertise and capacities in the field of international trade law in those countries to facilitate the development of international trade and the promotion of foreign investment, and reiterates its appeal to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

7. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

8. *Welcomes* the decision by the Commission to hold a comprehensive review of its working methods, in particular in the light of the recent increase in membership of the Commission and the number of topics being dealt with by the Commission, which should ensure the high quality of the work of the Commission and international acceptability of its instruments, and in this regard recalls its previous resolutions related to this matter;[25]

9. *Recalls* its resolutions on partnerships between the United Nations and non-State actors, in particular the private

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[22] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17* and corrigendum (A/49/17 and Corr.1), annex I.

[23] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.V.6.

[24] Resolution 48/32, para. 5.

[25] See in particular resolutions 36/32, 37/106, 38/134, 39/82, 40/71, 41/77, 42/152, 43/166 and 57/20.

sector,[26] and its resolutions in which it encouraged the Commission to further explore different approaches to the use of partnerships with non-State actors in the implementation of its mandate, in particular in the area of technical assistance, in accordance with the applicable principles and guidelines and in cooperation and coordination with other relevant offices of the Secretariat, including the Global Compact Office;[27]

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in conformity with the General Assembly resolutions on documentation-related matters,[28] which, in particular, emphasize that any reduction in the length of documents should not adversely affect either the quality of the presentation or the substance of the documents, to bear in mind the particular characteristics of the mandate and work of the Commission in implementing page limits with respect to the documentation of the Commission;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue providing summary records of the meetings of the Commission relating to the formulation of normative texts;

12. *Recalls* its resolution approving the establishment of the *Yearbook of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law*, with the aim of making the work of the Commission more widely known and readily available,[29] expresses its concern regarding the timeliness of the publication of the *Yearbook*, and requests the Secretary-General to explore options to facilitate the timely publication of the *Yearbook*;

13. *Stresses* the importance of bringing into effect the conventions emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions;

14. *Welcomes* the preparation of digests of case law relating to the texts of the Commission, such as a digest of case law relating to the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods[30] and a digest of case law relating to the Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law,[31] with the aim of assisting in the dissemination of information on those texts and promoting their use, enactment and uniform interpretation;

15. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Congress "Modern Law for Global Commerce", held in Vienna from 9 to 12 July 2007 in the context of the fortieth session of the Commission, reviewed the results of the past work of the Commission as well as related work of other organizations active in the field of international trade law, assessed current work programmes and considered topics and areas for future work, and, acknowledging the importance of the results of the Congress for the coordination and promotion of activities aimed at the modernization and harmonization of international trade law, requests the Secretary-General to ensure the publication of the proceedings of the Congress to the extent permitted by available resources;

16. *Recalls* its resolutions affirming the importance of high-quality, user-friendly and cost-effective United Nations websites and the need for their multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment,[32] commends the restructured website of the Commission in the six official languages of the United Nations, and welcomes the continuous efforts of the Commission to maintain and improve its website in accordance with the applicable guidelines.

RESOLUTION 62/65

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/449, para. 10)[33]

62/65. Fiftieth anniversary of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, done at New York on 10 June 1958

The General Assembly,

Recalling the adoption of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards[34] on 10 June 1958 by the United Nations Conference on International Commercial Arbitration (New York, 20 May to 10 June 1958),[35]

Noting that one hundred and forty-two States have become parties to the Convention, making it one of the most successful treaties in the area of commercial law,

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[26] Resolutions 55/215, 56/76, 58/129 and 60/215.

[27] Resolutions 59/39, 60/20 and 61/32.

[28] Resolutions 52/214, sect. B, 57/283 B, sect. III, and 58/250, sect. III.

[29] Resolution 2502 (XXIV), para. 7.

[30] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1489, No. 25567.

[31] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/40/17), annex I.

[32] Resolutions 52/214, sect. C, para. 3; 55/222, sect. III, para. 12; 56/64 B, sect. X; 57/130 B, sect. X; 58/101 B, sect. V, paras. 61–76; 59/126 B, sect. V, paras. 76–95; 60/109 B, sect. IV, paras. 66–80; and 61/121 B, sect. IV, paras. 65–77.

[33] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Bureau.

[34] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 330, No. 4739.

[35] E/CONF.26/8/Rev.1.

Recognizing the value of arbitration as a method of settling disputes in international commercial relations, contributing to harmonious commercial relations, stimulating international trade and development and promoting the rule of law at the international and national levels,

Convinced that the Convention, by establishing a fundamental legal framework for the use of arbitration and its effectiveness, has strengthened respect for binding commitments, inspired confidence in the rule of law and ensured fair treatment in the resolution of disputes arising over contractual rights and obligations,

Noting that the Convention has served as a model for subsequent multilateral and bilateral treaties and other international legislative texts on arbitration,

Taking note with appreciation of the work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law relating to the promotion of the Convention and its uniform interpretation and effective implementation,

Emphasizing the necessity for further national efforts and enhanced international cooperation to achieve universal adherence to the Convention and its uniform interpretation and effective implementation, with a view to fully realizing the objectives of the Convention,

Expressing its hope that States that are not yet parties to the Convention will soon become parties thereto, which would ensure that the legal certainty afforded by the Convention is universally enjoyed, decreasing the level of risk and transactional costs associated with doing business and thus promoting international trade,

1. *Welcomes* the initiatives being undertaken by various organs and agencies within and outside the United Nations system to organize conferences and other similar events to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards[34] and to provide a forum for an exchange of views on experiences worldwide with the implementation of the Convention;

2. *Encourages* the use of these events for the promotion of wider adherence to the Convention and greater understanding of its provisions and their uniform interpretation and effective implementation;

3. *Invites* all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to increase efforts to promote wider adherence to the Convention and its uniform interpretation and effective implementation.

RESOLUTION 62/66

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/450, para. 8)[36]

62/66. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-ninth session

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-ninth session,[37]

Emphasizing the importance of furthering the progressive development of international law and its codification as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[38]

Recognizing the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission to enhance further their contribution to the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Recalling the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

Welcoming the holding of the International Law Seminar, and noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar,

Acknowledging the importance of facilitating the timely publication of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* and eliminating the backlog,

Stressing the usefulness of focusing and structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report and for discussions on specific topics,

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[36] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Morocco on behalf of the Bureau.

[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/62/10).

[38] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Wishing to enhance further, in the context of the revitalization of the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two bodies,

Welcoming initiatives to hold interactive debates, panel discussions and question time in the Sixth Committee, as envisaged in resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-ninth session,[37] and recommends that the Commission continue its work on the topics in its current programme, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether submitted in writing or expressed orally in debates in the General Assembly;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its fifty-ninth session;

3. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views on the various aspects involved in the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report,[39] regarding:

(*a*) Reservations to treaties;

(*b*) Shared natural resources;

(*c*) Expulsion of aliens;

(*d*) Responsibility of international organizations;

(*e*) The obligation to extradite or prosecute (*aut dedere aut judicare*);

4. *Invites* Governments, within the context of paragraph 3 above, to provide information to the International Law Commission regarding practice with regard to the topics "Expulsion of aliens" and "The obligation to extradite or prosecute (*aut dedere aut judicare*)";

5. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments, within the context of chapter III of the 2005 report of the International Law Commission, to provide information to the Commission regarding State practice, in particular more contemporary practice on the topic "Effects of armed conflicts on treaties";[40]

6. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their comments and observations by 1 January 2008 on the draft articles and commentaries on the law of transboundary aquifers adopted on first reading by the Commission at its fifty-eighth session;[41]

7. *Takes note* of the decision of the International Law Commission to include the topics "Protection of persons in the event of disasters" and "Immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction" in its programme of work;[42]

8. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue taking measures to enhance its efficiency and productivity and to consider making proposals to that end;

9. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue taking cost-saving measures at its future sessions without prejudice to the efficiency of its work;

10. *Takes note* of paragraph 399 of the report of the International Law Commission, and decides that the next session of the Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 5 May to 6 June and from 7 July to 8 August 2008;

11. *Welcomes* the enhanced dialogue between the International Law Commission and the Sixth Committee at the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, stresses the desirability of further enhancing the dialogue between the two bodies, and in this context encourages, inter alia, the continued practice of informal consultations in the form of discussions between the members of the Sixth Committee and the members of the Commission attending the sixty-third session of the Assembly;

12. *Encourages* delegations, during the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, to adhere as far as possible to the structured work programme agreed to by the Sixth Committee and to consider presenting concise and focused statements;

13. *Encourages* Member States to consider being represented at the level of legal adviser during the first week in which the report of the International Law Commission is discussed in the Sixth Committee (International Law Week) to enable high-level discussions on issues of international law;

14. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

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[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/62/10), paras. 23–32.

[40] Ibid., *Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/60/10), para. 25.

[41] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/61/10), paras. 75 and 76.

[42] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/62/10), paras. 375 and 376.

15. *Takes note* of paragraphs 400 to 405 of the report of the International Law Commission with regard to cooperation with other bodies, and encourages the Commission to continue the implementation of article 16, paragraph (*e*), and article 26, paragraphs 1 and 2, of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation;

16. *Notes* that the International Law Commission, in accordance with article 25, paragraph 1, of its statute, held a meeting during its fifty-ninth session with United Nations and other experts in the field of human rights, including representatives from human rights treaty bodies, and exchanged views on issues relating to reservations to human rights treaties;

17. *Also notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

18. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the indispensable role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in providing assistance to the International Law Commission;

19. *Approves* the conclusions reached by the International Law Commission in paragraphs 387 to 395 of its report;

20. *Also approves* the conclusions reached by the International Law Commission in paragraphs 382 and 383 of its report, and reaffirms its previous decisions concerning the documentation and summary records of the Commission;[43]

21. *Takes note* of paragraph 385 of the report of the International Law Commission and, without prejudice to the importance of ensuring necessary allocations in the regular budget, requests the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund to accept voluntary contributions so as to address the backlog relating to the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*;

22. *Also takes note* of the Guidelines on the publication of documents of the International Law Commission, as endorsed by the Commission in paragraph 381 of its report;

23. *Further takes note* of paragraphs 396 and 397 of the report of the International Law Commission and encourages legal advisers to participate in the commemorative meeting envisaged for the sixtieth anniversary to be held in Geneva on 19 and 20 May 2008, and invites Member States, in association with existing regional organizations, professional associations, academic institutions and members of the Commission, to convene national or regional meetings, which would be dedicated to the work of the Commission;

24. *Notes with appreciation* the expansion of the website of the International Law Commission[44] to include all its documentation, and welcomes the continuous efforts of the Codification Division to maintain and improve the website;

25. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants, in particular from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend the Seminar, and appeals to States to continue to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue considering ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

28. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session, chapter III containing the specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission and the draft articles adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

29. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the sixty-third session of the General Assembly commence on 27 October 2008.

RESOLUTION 62/67

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/451, para. 7)[45]

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[43] See resolutions 32/151, para. 10, and 37/111, para. 5, and all subsequent resolutions on the annual reports of the International Law Commission to the General Assembly.

[44] www.un.org/law/ilc.

[45] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of South Africa on behalf of the Bureau.

62/67. Diplomatic protection

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-eighth session,[46] which contains the draft articles on diplomatic protection,[47]

Noting that the Commission decided to recommend to the General Assembly the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles on diplomatic protection,[48]

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (*a*), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the subject of diplomatic protection is of major importance in the relations of States,

Taking into account the comments and observations of Governments[49] and the discussion held in the Sixth Committee at the sixty-second session of the General Assembly on diplomatic protection,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusion of the work of the International Law Commission on diplomatic protection and its adoption of the draft articles and commentary on the topic;[50]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commission for its continuing contribution to the codification and progressive development of international law;

3. *Commends* the articles on diplomatic protection presented by the Commission, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, to the attention of Governments, and invites them to submit in writing to the Secretary-General any further comments concerning the recommendation by the Commission to elaborate a convention on the basis of the articles;[48]

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session an item entitled "Diplomatic protection" and to further examine, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee, in the light of the written comments of Governments, as well as views expressed in the debates held at the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, the question of a convention on diplomatic protection, or any other appropriate action, on the basis of the above-mentioned articles.

Annex

Diplomatic protection

Part one
General provisions

Article 1
Definition and scope

For the purposes of the present draft articles, diplomatic protection consists of the invocation by a State, through diplomatic action or other means of peaceful settlement, of the responsibility of another State for an injury caused by an internationally wrongful act of that State to a natural or legal person that is a national of the former State with a view to the implementation of such responsibility.

Article 2
Right to exercise diplomatic protection

A State has the right to exercise diplomatic protection in accordance with the present draft articles.

Part two
Nationality

Chapter I
General principles

Article 3
Protection by the State of nationality

1. The State entitled to exercise diplomatic protection is the State of nationality.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, diplomatic protection may be exercised by a State in respect of a person that is not its national in accordance with draft article 8.

Chapter II
Natural persons

Article 4
State of nationality of a natural person

For the purposes of the diplomatic protection of a natural person, a State of nationality means a State whose nationality that person has acquired, in accordance with the law of that State, by birth, descent, naturalization, succession of States or in any other manner, not inconsistent with international law.

Article 5
Continuous nationality of a natural person

1. A State is entitled to exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a person who was a national of that State continuously from the date of injury to the date of the official presentation of the claim. Continuity is presumed if that nationality existed at both these dates.

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[46] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/61/10).

[47] Ibid., para. 49.

[48] Ibid., para. 46.

[49] A/62/118 and Add.1.

[50] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/61/10), paras. 43 and 44.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, a State may exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a person who is its national at the date of the official presentation of the claim but was not a national at the date of injury, provided that the person had the nationality of a predecessor State or lost his or her previous nationality and acquired, for a reason unrelated to the bringing of the claim, the nationality of the former State in a manner not inconsistent with international law.

3. Diplomatic protection shall not be exercised by the present State of nationality in respect of a person against a former State of nationality of that person for an injury caused when that person was a national of the former State of nationality and not of the present State of nationality.

4. A State is no longer entitled to exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a person who acquires the nationality of the State against which the claim is brought after the date of the official presentation of the claim.

Article 6
Multiple nationality and claim against a third State

1. Any State of which a dual or multiple national is a national may exercise diplomatic protection in respect of that national against a State of which that person is not a national.

2. Two or more States of nationality may jointly exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a dual or multiple national.

Article 7
Multiple nationality and claim against a State of nationality

A State of nationality may not exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a person against a State of which that person is also a national unless the nationality of the former State is predominant, both at the date of injury and at the date of the official presentation of the claim.

Article 8
Stateless persons and refugees

1. A State may exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a stateless person who, at the date of injury and at the date of the official presentation of the claim, is lawfully and habitually resident in that State.

2. A State may exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a person who is recognized as a refugee by that State, in accordance with internationally accepted standards, when that person, at the date of injury and at the date of the official presentation of the claim, is lawfully and habitually resident in that State.

3. Paragraph 2 does not apply in respect of an injury caused by an internationally wrongful act of the State of nationality of the refugee.

Chapter III
Legal persons

Article 9
State of nationality of a corporation

For the purposes of the diplomatic protection of a corporation, the State of nationality means the State under whose law the corporation was incorporated. However, when the corporation is controlled by nationals of another State or States and has no substantial business activities in the State of incorporation, and the seat of management and the financial control of the corporation are both located in another State, that State shall be regarded as the State of nationality.

Article 10
Continuous nationality of a corporation

1. A State is entitled to exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a corporation that was a national of that State, or its predecessor State, continuously from the date of injury to the date of the official presentation of the claim. Continuity is presumed if that nationality existed at both these dates.

2. A State is no longer entitled to exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a corporation that acquires the nationality of the State against which the claim is brought after the presentation of the claim.

3. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, a State continues to be entitled to exercise diplomatic protection in respect of a corporation which was its national at the date of injury and which, as the result of the injury, has ceased to exist according to the law of the State of incorporation.

Article 11
Protection of shareholders

A State of nationality of shareholders in a corporation shall not be entitled to exercise diplomatic protection in respect of such shareholders in the case of an injury to the corporation unless:

(*a*) The corporation has ceased to exist according to the law of the State of incorporation for a reason unrelated to the injury; or

(*b*) The corporation had, at the date of injury, the nationality of the State alleged to be responsible for causing the injury, and incorporation in that State was required by it as a precondition for doing business there.

Article 12
Direct injury to shareholders

To the extent that an internationally wrongful act of a State causes direct injury to the rights of shareholders as such, as distinct from those of the corporation itself, the State of nationality of any such shareholders is entitled to exercise diplomatic protection in respect of its nationals.

Article 13
Other legal persons

The principles contained in this chapter shall be applicable, as appropriate, to the diplomatic protection of legal persons other than corporations.

Part three
Local remedies

Article 14
Exhaustion of local remedies

1. A State may not present an international claim in respect of an injury to a national or other person referred to in draft article 8 before the injured person has, subject to draft article 15, exhausted all local remedies.

2. "Local remedies" means legal remedies which are open to an injured person before the judicial or administrative courts or bodies, whether ordinary or special, of the State alleged to be responsible for causing the injury.

3. Local remedies shall be exhausted where an international claim, or request for a declaratory judgement related to the claim, is brought preponderantly on the basis of an injury to a national or other person referred to in draft article 8.

Article 15
Exceptions to the local remedies rule

Local remedies do not need to be exhausted where:

(*a*) There are no reasonably available local remedies to provide effective redress, or the local remedies provide no reasonable possibility of such redress;

(*b*) There is undue delay in the remedial process which is attributable to the State alleged to be responsible;

(*c*) There was no relevant connection between the injured person and the State alleged to be responsible at the date of injury;

(*d*) The injured person is manifestly precluded from pursuing local remedies; or

(*e*) The State alleged to be responsible has waived the requirement that local remedies be exhausted.

Part four
Miscellaneous provisions

Article 16
Actions or procedures other than diplomatic protection

The rights of States, natural persons, legal persons or other entities to resort under international law to actions or procedures other than diplomatic protection to secure redress for injury suffered as a result of an internationally wrongful act, are not affected by the present draft articles.

Article 17
Special rules of international law

The present draft articles do not apply to the extent that they are inconsistent with special rules of international law, such as treaty provisions for the protection of investments.

Article 18
Protection of ships' crews

The right of the State of nationality of the members of the crew of a ship to exercise diplomatic protection is not affected by the right of the State of nationality of a ship to seek redress on behalf of such crew members, irrespective of their nationality, when they have been injured in connection with an injury to the vessel resulting from an internationally wrongful act.

Article 19
Recommended practice

A State entitled to exercise diplomatic protection according to the present draft articles, should:

(*a*) Give due consideration to the possibility of exercising diplomatic protection, especially when a significant injury has occurred;

(*b*) Take into account, wherever feasible, the views of injured persons with regard to resort to diplomatic protection and the reparation to be sought; and

(*c*) Transfer to the injured person any compensation obtained for the injury from the responsible State subject to any reasonable deductions.

RESOLUTION 62/68

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/452, para. 7)[51]

62/68. Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the International Law Commission at its fifty-third session[52] completed the draft articles on prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and recommended to the General Assembly the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles,

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[51] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of New Zealand on behalf of the Bureau.

[52] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (A/56/10 and Corr.1), paras. 91, 94 and 97.

Recalling also its resolution 56/82 of 12 December 2001,

Noting that the Commission at its fifty-eighth session completed the draft principles on allocation of loss in the case of transboundary harm arising out of hazardous activities and recommended to the General Assembly that it endorse the draft principles by a resolution and urge States to take national and international action to implement them,[53]

Recalling its resolution 61/36 of 4 December 2006, the annex to which contains the text of the principles on allocation of loss in the case of transboundary harm arising out of hazardous activities,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (*a*), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the questions of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm are of major importance in the relations of States,

Taking into account the views and comments expressed in the Sixth Committee at the sixty-second session of the General Assembly on the prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusion of the work of the International Law Commission on prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm and its adoption of the respective draft articles and draft principles and commentaries on the subjects;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commission for its continuing contribution to the codification and progressive development of international law;

3. *Commends* the articles on prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities, presented by the Commission, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, to the attention of Governments, without prejudice to any future action, as recommended by the Commission regarding the articles;

4. *Commends once again* the principles on the allocation of loss in the case of transboundary harm arising out of hazardous activities, presented by the Commission, the text of which was annexed to General Assembly resolution 61/36, to the attention of Governments, without prejudice to any future action, as recommended by the Commission regarding the principles;

5. *Invites* Governments to submit comments on any future action, in particular on the form of the respective articles and principles, bearing in mind the recommendations made by the Commission in that regard, including in relation to the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles, as well as on any practice in relation to the application of the articles and principles;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm".

Annex

Prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities

The States Parties,

Having in mind Article 13, paragraph 1 (*a*) of the Charter of the United Nations, which provides that the General Assembly shall initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Bearing in mind the principle of permanent sovereignty of States over the natural resources within their territory or otherwise under their jurisdiction or control,

Bearing in mind also that the freedom of States to carry on or permit activities in their territory or otherwise under their jurisdiction or control is not unlimited,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of 13 June 1992,

Recognizing the importance of promoting international cooperation,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1
Scope

The present articles apply to activities not prohibited by international law which involve a risk of causing significant transboundary harm through their physical consequences.

Article 2
Use of terms

For the purposes of the present articles:

(*a*) "Risk of causing significant transboundary harm" includes risks taking the form of a high probability of causing significant transboundary harm and a low probability of causing disastrous transboundary harm;

(*b*) "Harm" means harm caused to persons, property or the environment;

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[53] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/61/10), para. 63.

(*c*) "Transboundary harm" means harm caused in the territory of or in other places under the jurisdiction or control of a State other than the State of origin, whether or not the States concerned share a common border;

(*d*) "State of origin" means the State in the territory or otherwise under the jurisdiction or control of which the activities referred to in article 1 are planned or are carried out;

(*e*) "State likely to be affected" means the State or States in the territory of which there is the risk of significant transboundary harm or which have jurisdiction or control over any other place where there is such a risk;

(*f*) "States concerned" means the State of origin and the State likely to be affected.

Article 3
Prevention

The State of origin shall take all appropriate measures to prevent significant transboundary harm or at any event to minimize the risk thereof.

Article 4
Cooperation

States concerned shall cooperate in good faith and, as necessary, seek the assistance of one or more competent international organizations in preventing significant transboundary harm or at any event in minimizing the risk thereof.

Article 5
Implementation

States concerned shall take the necessary legislative, administrative or other action including the establishment of suitable monitoring mechanisms to implement the provisions of the present articles.

Article 6
Authorization

1. The State of origin shall require its prior authorization for:

(*a*) Any activity within the scope of the present articles carried out in its territory or otherwise under its jurisdiction or control;

(*b*) Any major change in an activity referred to in subparagraph (*a*);

(*c*) Any plan to change an activity which may transform it into one falling within the scope of the present articles.

2. The requirement of authorization established by a State shall be made applicable in respect of all pre-existing activities within the scope of the present articles. Authorizations already issued by the State for pre-existing activities shall be reviewed in order to comply with the present articles.

3. In case of a failure to conform to the terms of the authorization, the State of origin shall take such actions as appropriate, including where necessary terminating the authorization.

Article 7
Assessment of risk

Any decision in respect of the authorization of an activity within the scope of the present articles shall, in particular, be based on an assessment of the possible transboundary harm caused by that activity, including any environmental impact assessment.

Article 8
Notification and information

1. If the assessment referred to in article 7 indicates a risk of causing significant transboundary harm, the State of origin shall provide the State likely to be affected with timely notification of the risk and the assessment and shall transmit to it the available technical and all other relevant information on which the assessment is based.

2. The State of origin shall not take any decision on authorization of the activity pending the receipt, within a period not exceeding six months, of the response from the State likely to be affected.

Article 9
Consultations on preventive measures

1. The States concerned shall enter into consultations, at the request of any of them, with a view to achieving acceptable solutions regarding measures to be adopted in order to prevent significant transboundary harm or at any event to minimize the risk thereof. The States concerned shall agree, at the commencement of such consultations, on a reasonable time frame for the consultations.

2. The States concerned shall seek solutions based on an equitable balance of interests in the light of article 10.

3. If the consultations referred to in paragraph 1 fail to produce an agreed solution, the State of origin shall nevertheless take into account the interests of the State likely to be affected in case it decides to authorize the activity to be pursued, without prejudice to the rights of any State likely to be affected.

Article 10
Factors involved in an equitable balance of interests

In order to achieve an equitable balance of interests as referred to in paragraph 2 of article 9, the States concerned shall take into account all relevant factors and circumstances, including:

(*a*) The degree of risk of significant transboundary harm and of the availability of means of preventing such harm, or minimizing the risk thereof or repairing the harm;

(*b*) The importance of the activity, taking into account its overall advantages of a social, economic and technical character for the State of origin in relation to the potential harm for the State likely to be affected;

(*c*) The risk of significant harm to the environment and the availability of means of preventing such harm, or minimizing the risk thereof or restoring the environment;

(*d*) The degree to which the State of origin and, as appropriate, the State likely to be affected are prepared to contribute to the costs of prevention;

(*e*) The economic viability of the activity in relation to the costs of prevention and to the possibility of carrying out the activity elsewhere or by other means or replacing it with an alternative activity;

(*f*) The standards of prevention which the State likely to be affected applies to the same or comparable activities and the standards applied in comparable regional or international practice.

Article 11
Procedures in the absence of notification

1. If a State has reasonable grounds to believe that an activity planned or carried out in the State of origin may involve a risk of causing significant transboundary harm to it, it may request the State of origin to apply the provision of article 8. The request shall be accompanied by a documented explanation setting forth its grounds.

2. In the event that the State of origin nevertheless finds that it is not under an obligation to provide a notification under article 8, it shall so inform the requesting State within a reasonable time, providing a documented explanation setting forth the reasons for such finding. If this finding does not satisfy that State, at its request, the two States shall promptly enter into consultations in the manner indicated in article 9.

3. During the course of the consultations, the State of origin shall, if so requested by the other State, arrange to introduce appropriate and feasible measures to minimize the risk and, where appropriate, to suspend the activity in question for a reasonable period.

Article 12
Exchange of information

While the activity is being carried out, the States concerned shall exchange in a timely manner all available information concerning that activity relevant to preventing significant transboundary harm or at any event minimizing the risk thereof. Such an exchange of information shall continue until such time as the States concerned consider it appropriate even after the activity is terminated.

Article 13
Information to the public

States concerned shall, by such means as are appropriate, provide the public likely to be affected by an activity within the scope of the present articles with relevant information relating to that activity, the risk involved and the harm which might result and ascertain their views.

Article 14
National security and industrial secrets

Data and information vital to the national security of the State of origin or to the protection of industrial secrets or concerning intellectual property may be withheld, but the State of origin shall cooperate in good faith with the State likely to be affected in providing as much information as possible under the circumstances.

Article 15
Non-discrimination

Unless the States concerned have agreed otherwise for the protection of the interests of persons, natural or juridical, who may be or are exposed to the risk of significant transboundary harm as a result of an activity within the scope of the present articles, a State shall not discriminate on the basis of nationality or residence or place where the injury might occur, in granting to such persons, in accordance with its legal system, access to judicial or other procedures to seek protection or other appropriate redress.

Article 16
Emergency preparedness

The State of origin shall develop contingency plans for responding to emergencies, in cooperation, where appropriate, with the State likely to be affected and competent international organizations.

Article 17
Notification of an emergency

The State of origin shall, without delay and by the most expeditious means, at its disposal, notify the State likely to be affected of an emergency concerning an activity within the scope of the present articles and provide it with all relevant and available information.

Article 18
Relationship to other rules of international law

The present articles are without prejudice to any obligation incurred by States under relevant treaties or rules of customary international law.

Article 19
Settlement of disputes

1. Any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the present articles shall be settled expeditiously through peaceful means of settlement chosen by mutual agreement of the parties to the dispute, including negotiations, mediation, conciliation, arbitration or judicial settlement.

2. Failing an agreement on the means for the peaceful settlement of the dispute within a period of six months, the parties to the dispute shall, at the request of any of them, have recourse to the establishment of an impartial fact-finding commission.

3. The Fact-finding Commission shall be composed of one member nominated by each party to the dispute and in addition a member not having the nationality of any of the parties to the dispute chosen by the nominated members who shall serve as Chairperson.

4. If more than one State is involved on one side of the dispute and those States do not agree on a common member of the Commission and each of them nominates a member, the other party to the dispute has the right to nominate an equal number of members of the Commission.

5. If the members nominated by the parties to the dispute are unable to agree on a Chairperson within three months of the request for the establishment of the Commission, any party to the dispute may request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint the Chairperson who shall not have the nationality of any of the parties to the dispute. If one of the parties to the dispute fails to nominate a member within three months of the initial request pursuant to paragraph 2, any other party to the dispute may request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint a person who shall not have the nationality of any of the parties to the dispute. The person so appointed shall constitute a single-member Commission.

6. The Commission shall adopt its report by a majority vote, unless it is a single-member Commission, and shall submit that report to the parties to the dispute setting forth its findings and recommendations, which the parties to the dispute shall consider in good faith.

RESOLUTION 62/69

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/453, para. 9)[54]

62/69. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

Recalling also its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council,[55]

Recalling the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Recalling also its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

Concerned about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter of the United Nations to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Council,

Recalling the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

Recalling also that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

Mindful of the adoption of the revised working papers on the working methods of the Special Committee,[56]

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[54] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Egypt on behalf of the Bureau.

[55] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/61/47).

[56] Ibid., *Supplement No. 33* (A/61/33), para. 72.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*,[57]

Taking note also of paragraphs 106 to 110, 176 and 177 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[58]

Mindful of the decision of the Special Committee, in which it expressed its readiness to engage, as appropriate, in the implementation of any decisions that might be taken at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concerned the Charter and any amendments thereto,[59]

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998, 54/107 of 9 December 1999, 55/157 of 12 December 2000, 56/87 of 12 December 2001, 57/25 of 19 November 2002, 58/80 of 9 December 2003 and 59/45 of 2 December 2004,

Recalling also its resolution 61/38 of 4 December 2006,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2007,[60]

Noting with appreciation the work done by the Special Committee to encourage States to focus on the need to prevent and to settle peacefully their disputes which are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;[60]

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 27 February to 5 March and on 7 March 2008;

3. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2008, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(*a*) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations, and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2008;

(*b*) To continue its consideration of the working document submitted by the Russian Federation, entitled "Basic conditions and standard criteria for introduction and implementation of sanctions", on a priority basis;

(*c*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis and in an appropriate substantive manner and framework, the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter based on all of the related reports of the Secretary-General[61] and the proposals submitted on the question;

(*d*) To keep on its agenda the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States;

(*e*) To consider, as appropriate, any proposal referred to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the decisions of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the Assembly in September 2005 that concern the Charter and any amendments thereto;

(*f*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. *Invites* the Special Committee at its session in 2008 to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations;

5. *Notes* the readiness of the Special Committee to provide, within its mandate, such assistance as may be sought at the request of other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in relation to any issues before them;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

7. *Recognizes* the important role of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in adjudicating disputes among States and the value of its work, as well as the importance of having recourse to the Court in the peaceful settlement of disputes, takes note, consistent with Article 96 of the Charter, of the Court's advisory jurisdiction that may be requested by the General Assembly, the Security Council or other authorized organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and requests the Secretary-General to distribute, in due course, the advisory opinions requested by the principal organs of the United Nations as official documents of the United Nations;

8. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the progress made in the preparation of studies of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, including the increased use of the

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[57] A/62/124 and Corr.1.

[58] See resolution 60/1.

[59] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/60/33), para. 77.

[60] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/62/33).

[61] A/48/573-S/26705, A/49/356, A/50/60-S/1995/1, A/50/361, A/50/423, A/51/317, A/52/308, A/53/312, A/54/383 and Add.1, A/55/295 and Add.1, A/56/303, A/57/165 and Add.1, A/58/346, A/59/334, A/60/320, A/61/304 and A/62/206 and Corr.1.

internship programme of the United Nations and further expanded cooperation with academic institutions for this purpose, as well as the progress made towards updating the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by Member States to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*, as well as the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory*;

10. *Reiterates its call* for voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*, as well as the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory*, and the sponsoring, on a voluntary basis, and with no cost to the United Nations, of associate experts to assist in the updating of the two publications;

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts towards updating the two publications and making them available electronically in all their respective language versions;

12. *Reiterates* the responsibility of the Secretary-General for the quality of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* and, in particular, with regard to the *Repertoire*, calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to follow the modalities outlined in paragraphs 102 to 106 of his report of 18 September 1952;[62]

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on both the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire* to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to brief the Special Committee at its next session on the information referred to in paragraph 13 of his report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions,[63] on modalities, technical procedures and guidelines on coordination of technical assistance available to third States affected by the implementation of sanctions, as well as a possible methodology for assessing the adverse consequences actually incurred by third States, in the report mentioned in paragraph 15 below;

15. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization";

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

RESOLUTION 62/70

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/454, para. 8)[64]

62/70. The rule of law at the national and international levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/39 of 4 December 2006,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterating its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

Reaffirming also that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming further the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels and its solemn commitment to an international order based on the rule of law and international law, which, together with the principles of justice, is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

Convinced that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for the realization of sustained economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger and the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and acknowledging that collective security depends on effective cooperation, in accordance with the Charter and international law, against transnational threats,

Reaffirming the duty of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered, in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter, and calling upon States that have not yet done so to consider accepting the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in accordance with its Statute,

Convinced that the promotion of and respect for the rule of law at the national and international levels, as well as justice and good governance, should guide the activities of the United Nations and of its Member States,

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[62] A/2170.

[63] A/62/206 and Corr.1.

[64] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Liechtenstein on behalf of the Bureau.

Recalling paragraph 134 (*e*) of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[65]

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to prepare an inventory of the current activities of the various organs, bodies, offices, departments, funds and programmes within the United Nations system devoted to the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels for submission at its sixty-third session, and welcomes the interim report thereon submitted to the General Assembly at the sixty-second session;[66]

2. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to prepare and submit, after having sought the views of Member States, at its sixty-third session, a report identifying ways and means for strengthening and coordinating the activities listed in the inventory to be prepared pursuant to paragraph 1 above, with special regard to the effectiveness of assistance that may be requested by States in building capacity for the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels;

3. *Invites* the International Court of Justice, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the International Law Commission to comment, in their respective reports to the General Assembly, on their current roles in promoting the rule of law;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Uniting our strengths: enhancing United Nations support for the rule of law",[67] supports the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, supported by the rule of law unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to provide details on the staffing and other requirements for the unit without delay to the General Assembly for its consideration during the sixty-second session in accordance with existing relevant procedures;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "The rule of law at the national and international levels".

RESOLUTION 62/71

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/455, para. 11)[68] and as orally amended

62/71. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in all its aspects adopted on 8 September 2006,[69] enhancing the overall framework for the efforts of the international community to effectively counter the scourge of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[70]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[71]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[72] and reaffirming in particular the section on terrorism,

Recalling the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996,

Recalling also all General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism, and Security Council resolutions on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

Convinced of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

Reaffirming its strong condemnation of the heinous acts of terrorism that have caused enormous loss of human life, destruction and damage, including those which prompted the adoption of General Assembly resolution 56/1 of 12 September 2001, as well as Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001, and those that have occurred since the adoption of the latter resolution,

Recalling the strong condemnation of the atrocious and deliberate attack against the headquarters of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq in Baghdad on 19 August 2003 in General Assembly resolution 57/338 of 15 September 2003 and Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003,

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[65] See resolution 60/1.

[66] A/62/261.

[67] A/61/636-S/2006/980 and Corr.1.

[68] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Canada on behalf of the Bureau.

[69] Resolution 60/288.

[70] See resolution 50/6.

[71] See resolution 55/2.

[72] See resolution 60/1.

Affirming that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with all their obligations under international law and adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Stressing the need to strengthen further international cooperation among States and among international organizations and agencies, regional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and the relevant international conventions,

Noting the role of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism in monitoring the implementation of that resolution, including the taking of the necessary financial, legal and technical measures by States and the ratification or acceptance of the relevant international conventions and protocols,

Mindful of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism, and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

Mindful also of the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation aimed at enhancing the national capacity of States to prevent and suppress effectively international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Reiterating its call upon States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there is a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

Emphasizing that tolerance and dialogue among civilizations, and enhancing interfaith and intercultural understanding, are among the most important elements in promoting cooperation and success in combating terrorism, and welcoming the various initiatives to this end,

Reaffirming that no terrorist act can be justified in any circumstances,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1624 (2005) of 14 September 2005, and bearing in mind that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Taking note of the recent developments and initiatives at the international, regional and subregional levels to prevent and suppress international terrorism, including those of, inter alia, the African Union, the ASEAN Regional Forum, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Bali Counter-Terrorism Process, the Central American Integration System, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, the Council of Europe, the East African Community, the Economic Community of West African States, the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the European Free Trade Association, the European Union, the Group of Eight, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the International Maritime Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the League of Arab States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Organization of American States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Southern African Development Community and the World Customs Organization,

Noting regional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of and adherence to regional conventions,

Recalling its decision in resolutions 54/110 of 9 December 1999, 55/158 of 12 December 2000, 56/88 of 12 December 2001, 57/27 of 19 November 2002, 58/81 of 9 December 2003, 59/46 of 2 December 2004, 60/43 of 8 December 2005 and 61/40 of 4 December 2006 that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 should address, and keep on its agenda, the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recalling also the Final Document of the Fourteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, adopted in Havana on 16 September 2006, which reiterated the collective position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on terrorism and reaffirmed its previous initiative[73] calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as other relevant initiatives,

Aware of its resolutions 57/219 of 18 December 2002, 58/187 of 22 December 2003, 59/191 of 20 December 2004, 60/158 of 16 December 2005 and 61/171 of 19 December 2006,

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[73] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I, paras. 149–162.

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[74] the report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by resolution 51/210[75] and the oral report of the Chairperson on the work of the Working Group established by the Sixth Committee during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly,[76]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[69] in all its aspects at the international, regional, subregional and national levels without delay, including through mobilizing resources and expertise;

3. *Recalls* the pivotal role of the General Assembly in following up the implementation and updating of the Strategy, and in this regard also recalls its invitation to the Secretary-General to contribute to the future deliberations of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General when doing so to provide information on relevant activities within the Secretariat to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system;

4. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider in particular the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (*a*) to (*f*) of resolution 51/210;

6. *Also reiterates its call upon* all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

8. *Urges* States to ensure that their nationals or other persons and entities within their territory that wilfully provide or collect funds for the benefit of persons or entities who commit, or attempt to commit, facilitate or participate in the commission of terrorist acts are punished by penalties consistent with the grave nature of such acts;

9. *Reminds* States of their obligations under relevant international conventions and protocols and Security Council resolutions, including Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), to ensure that perpetrators of terrorist acts are brought to justice;

10. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions;

11. *Recalls* the adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[77] the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material,[78] the Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[79] and the Protocol of 2005 to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[80] and urges all States to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to these instruments;

12. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider as a matter of priority, and in accordance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), and Council resolution 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004, becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings,[81] the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[82] the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, and the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, the domestic legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables

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[74] A/62/160.

[75] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/62/37).

[76] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Sixth Committee*, 16th meeting (A/C.6/62/SR.16), and corrigendum.

[77] Resolution 59/290, annex.

[78] Adopted on 8 July 2005 by the Conference to Consider Proposed Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

[79] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (LEG/CONF.15/21).

[80] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (LEG/CONF.15/22).

[81] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2149, No. 37517.

[82] Ibid., vol. 2178, No. 38349.

them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts, and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international and regional organizations to that end;

13. *Urges* States to cooperate with the Secretary-General and with one another, as well as with interested intergovernmental organizations, with a view to ensuring, where appropriate within existing mandates, that technical and other expert advice is provided to those States requiring and requesting assistance in becoming parties to and implementing the conventions and protocols referred to in paragraph 12 above;

14. *Notes with appreciation and satisfaction* that, consistent with the call contained in paragraphs 11 and 12 of resolution 61/40, a number of States became parties to the relevant conventions and protocols referred to therein, thereby realizing the objective of wider acceptance and implementation of those conventions, and, in this regard, welcomes in particular the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;

15. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, and calls upon all States to implement them;

16. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate to prevent and suppress terrorist acts;

17. *Urges* all States and the Secretary-General, in their efforts to prevent international terrorism, to make the best use of the existing institutions of the United Nations;

18. *Requests* the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna to continue its efforts to enhance, through its mandate, the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism, and recognizes, in the context of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), its role in assisting States in becoming parties to and implementing the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, including the most recent among them, and in strengthening international cooperation mechanisms in criminal matters related to terrorism, including through national capacity-building;

19. *Welcomes* the current efforts by the Secretariat to prepare the third edition of the publication *International Instruments related to the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism* in all official languages;

20. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism, as well as on intergovernmental meetings held by those organizations;

21. *Notes* the progress attained in the elaboration of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism during the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 and the Working Group established by the Sixth Committee during the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, and welcomes continuing efforts to that end;

22. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall, on an expedited basis, continue to elaborate the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism, and shall continue to discuss the item included in its agenda by General Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations;

23. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet on 25 and 26 February and 6 March 2008 in order to fulfil the mandate referred to in paragraph 22 above;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

25. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session in the event of the completion of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism;

26. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on progress made in the implementation of its mandate;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

RESOLUTION 62/72

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/459, para. 8)[83]

62/72. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[84]

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United

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[83] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire and Cyprus.

[84] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 26* and corrigendum (A/62/26 and Corr.1).

Nations,[85] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[86] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 62 of its report;[84]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which is an issue of great importance, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, and requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions; and urges the host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as training of police, security, customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities and if violations occur to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;

3. *Notes* the problems experienced by some permanent missions in connection with the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles[87] and shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuing to maintain the proper implementation of the Parking Programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;

4. *Welcomes* the conduct of the second review of the implementation of the Parking Programme and notes the results thereof, as well as the positions of members of the Committee, and calls upon the host country to address the problems reported by permanent missions in the context of the review;

5. *Requests* the host country to consider removing the remaining travel restrictions imposed by it on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, and, in this regard, notes the positions of affected States as reflected in the report of the Committee, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

6. *Notes* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance, in a timely manner, of entry visas to representatives of Member States, pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[86] to travel to New York on United Nations business; and notes that the Committee anticipates that the host country will enhance efforts to facilitate participation, including visa issuance, of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings as appropriate;

7. *Notes also* that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States, since this time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings;

8. *Welcomes* the exercise by the Chairman of the Committee of his good offices in addressing concerns pertaining to safety and security at the Headquarters District through the reasonable application of fire protection regulations of the appropriate authorities of the host country, including fire protection standards and consistent local codes and fire regulations, in accordance with the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[85] in order to ensure the safety of all personnel in the Headquarters District, while respecting the status of the Organization;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

10. *Affirms* the importance of the Committee being in a position to fulfil its mandate and meet on short notice to deal with urgent and important matters concerning the relations between the United Nations and the host country, and in that connection requests the Secretariat and the Committee on Conferences to accord priority to requests from the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for conference-servicing facilities for meetings of that Committee that must be held while the General Assembly and its Main Committees are meeting, without prejudice to the requirements of those bodies and on an "as available" basis;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

12. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI);

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[85] Resolution 22 A (I).

[86] See resolution 169 (II).

[87] A/AC.154/355, annex.

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

RESOLUTION 62/73

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/460, para. 7)[88]

62/73. Observer status for the Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States,

1. *Decides* to invite the Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/74

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/461, para. 7)[89]

62/74. Observer status for the Italian-Latin American Institute in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Italian-Latin American Institute,

1. *Decides* to invite the Italian-Latin American Institute to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/75

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/462, para. 7)[90]

62/75. Observer status for the Energy Charter Conference in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Energy Charter Conference,

1. *Decides* to invite the Energy Charter Conference to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/76

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/463, para. 7)[91]

62/76. Observer status for the Eurasian Development Bank in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Development Bank,

1. *Decides* to invite the Eurasian Development Bank to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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[88] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Burkina Faso, Burundi, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania.

[89] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.

[90] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Georgia, Ireland, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

RESOLUTION 62/77

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/522, para. 7)[92]

62/77. Observer status for the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia,

1. *Decides* to invite the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 62/78

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2007, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/62/523, para. 7)[93]

62/78. Observer status for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf,

1. *Decides* to invite the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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[92] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Chile, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Mongolia, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America and Viet Nam.

[93] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Palestine.

Annex I

Allocation of agenda items[a]

Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Credentials of representatives to the sixty-second session of the General Assembly:
   (*a*) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (*b*) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President of the General Assembly.
6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.
7. Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee.
8. General debate.

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

9. Report of the Security Council.
10. Report of the Peacebuilding Commission.
11. Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion.
12. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies.
13. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict.
14. Prevention of armed conflict.
15. The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development.
16. Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development.
17. The situation in the Middle East.
18. Question of Palestine.
19. The situation in Afghanistan.
20. The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.
21. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.
22. Question of Cyprus.
23. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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[a] Organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization.

24. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

25. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti.

26. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security.

27. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait.

28. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986.

167. Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula.

B. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

43. Report of the Economic and Social Council.

44. Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS.

45. Sport for peace and development:

    (*a*) Sport for peace and development;

    (*b*) Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal.

46. Global road safety crisis.

47. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa.

48. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields.

49. Culture of peace.

50. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order.

53. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development:

    (*b*) High-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development.

C. Development of Africa

64. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support:

    (*a*) New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support;

    (*b*) Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.

D. Promotion of human rights

66. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:

    (*b*) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children.

E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts

71. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance:
    (*a*) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;
    (*b*) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;
    (*c*) Assistance to the Palestinian people;
    (*d*) Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

72. Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence.

F. Promotion of justice and international law

73. Report of the International Court of Justice.

74. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

75. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

76. Report of the International Criminal Court.

77. Oceans and the law of the sea:
    (*a*) Oceans and the law of the sea;
    (*b*) Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments.

G. Disarmament

87. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

109. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.

110. Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund.

111. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations.

112. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs:
    (*a*) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;
    (*b*) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council.

113. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections:
    (*a*) Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;
    (*b*) Election of twenty-nine members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;
    (*c*) Election of five members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission;
    (*d*) Election of fifteen members of the Human Rights Council.

114. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:
    - (*g*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;
    - (*h*) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit;
    - (*i*) Approval of the appointment of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;
    - (*j*) Appointment of the members of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women.

115. Admission of new Members to the United Nations.

116. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.

117. United Nations reform: measures and proposals.

118. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

119. Commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade.

120. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations.

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

122. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters.

123. Strengthening of the United Nations system.

124. Follow-up to the recommendations on administrative management and internal oversight of the Independent Inquiry Committee into the United Nations Oil-for-Food Programme.

163. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community.

First Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

G. Disarmament

88. Reduction of military budgets:
    - (*a*) Reduction of military budgets;
    - (*b*) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures.

89. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

90. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

91. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco).

92. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security.

93. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security.

94. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.

95. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

96. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.

97. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification.

98. General and complete disarmament:

    (*a*) Notification of nuclear tests;

    (*b*) Further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the seabed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof;

    (*c*) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;

    (*d*) Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995 and 2000 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

    (*e*) Preventing the risk of radiological terrorism;

    (*f*) Missiles;

    (*g*) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

    (*h*) Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

    (*i*) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;

    (*j*) Relationship between disarmament and development;

    (*k*) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments;

    (*l*) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

    (*m*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

    (*n*) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;

    (*o*) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

    (*p*) Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus;

    (*q*) Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;

    (*r*) Transparency in armaments;

    (*s*) Nuclear disarmament;

    (*t*) Regional disarmament;

    (*u*) Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

    (*v*) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

    (*w*) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*;

    (*x*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;

    (*y*) Reducing nuclear danger;

    (*z*) Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;

    (*aa*) Towards an arms trade treaty: establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms;

    (*bb*) United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament.

99. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:
    - (*a*) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;
    - (*b*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;
    - (*c*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;
    - (*d*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;
    - (*e*) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;
    - (*f*) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons.

100. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:
    - (*a*) Report of the Disarmament Commission;
    - (*b*) Report of the Conference on Disarmament.

101. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East.

102. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

103. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region.

104. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

105. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

129. Programme planning.

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

29. Assistance in mine action.

30. Effects of atomic radiation.

31. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

32. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

33. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories.

34. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.

35. Questions relating to information.

36. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations.

37. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

38. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

39. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

40. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

129. Programme planning.

Second Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

41. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.

B. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

51. Information and communication technologies for development.

52. Macroeconomic policy questions:

    (*a*) International trade and development;

    (*b*) International financial system and development;

    (*c*) External debt crisis and development.

53. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development:

    (*a*) Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development;

    (*b*) High-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development.

54. Sustainable development:

    (*a*) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

    (*b*) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

    (*c*) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

    (*d*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

    (*e*) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

    (*f*) Convention on Biological Diversity;

(*g*) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-fourth session;

(*h*) Sustainable mountain development;

(*i*) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy.

55. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

56. Globalization and interdependence:

(*a*) Globalization and interdependence;

(*b*) Science and technology for development;

(*c*) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

57. Groups of countries in special situations:

(*a*) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

(*b*) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation.

58. Eradication of poverty and other development issues:

(*a*) Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006);

(*b*) Women in development;

(*c*) Human resources development.

59. Operational activities for development:

(*a*) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

(*b*) Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

(*c*) South-South cooperation for development.

60. Training and research: United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

61. Towards global partnerships.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

129. Programme planning.

Third Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

42. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

B. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

62. Social development:

    (*a*) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

    (*b*) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;

    (*c*) Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing.

63. Advancement of women:

    (*a*) Advancement of women;

    (*b*) Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

D. Promotion of human rights

65. Report of the Human Rights Council.

66. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:

    (*a*) Promotion and protection of the rights of children;

    (*b*) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children.

67. Indigenous issues:

    (*a*) Indigenous issues;

    (*b*) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

68. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination:

    (*a*) Elimination of racism and racial discrimination;

    (*b*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

69. Right of peoples to self-determination.

70. Promotion and protection of human rights:

    (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;

    (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

    (*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

    (*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

    (*e*) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

    (*f*) Celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

106. Crime prevention and criminal justice.

107. International drug control.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

129. Programme planning.

Fifth Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Maintenance of international peace and security

10. Report of the Peacebuilding Commission.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

114. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:
    (*a*) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
    (*b*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;
    (*c*) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;
    (*d*) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;
    (*e*) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;
    (*f*) Appointment of members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee.

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

125. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors:
    (*a*) United Nations peacekeeping operations;
    (*b*) Capital master plan;
    (*c*) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
    (*d*) United Nations Office for Project Services.

126. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

127. Programme budget for the biennium 2006–2007.

128. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008–2009.

129. Programme planning.

130. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations.

131. Pattern of conferences.

132. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations.

133. Human resources management.

134. Joint Inspection Unit.

135. United Nations common system.

136. Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

137. Administration of justice at the United Nations.

138. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.
139. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.
140. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations.
141. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi.
142. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire.
143. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.
144. Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
145. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor.
146. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor.
147. Financing of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste.
148. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea.
149. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia.
150. Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.
151. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo.
152. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia.
153. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East:
    (*a*) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;
    (*b*) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.
154. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone.
155. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan.
156. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara.
161. Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.
164. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad.

Sixth Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

F. Promotion of justice and international law

78. Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts.
79. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.
80. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission.
81. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fortieth session.
82. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-ninth session.

83. Diplomatic protection.

84. Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm.

85. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.

86. The rule of law at the national and international levels.

H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

108. Measures to eliminate international terrorism.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

129. Programme planning.

137. Administration of justice at the United Nations.

157. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

158. Observer status for the Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa in the General Assembly.

159. Observer status for the Italian-Latin American Institute in the General Assembly.

160. Observer status for the Energy Charter Conference in the General Assembly.

162. Observer status for the Eurasian Development Bank in the General Assembly.

165. Observer status for the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia in the General Assembly.

166. Observer status for the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf in the General Assembly.

Annex II

Checklist of resolutions

Resolution No.	*Title*	*Item*	*Plenary meeting*	*Date of adoption*	*Page*
62/1.	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: requests under Article 19 of the Charter	132	25th	15 October 2007	446
62/2.	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency	87	37th	29 October 2007	3
62/3.	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba	21	38th	30 October 2007	3
62/4.	Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal	45 (*b*)	40th	31 October 2007	4
62/5.	Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula	167	41st	31 October 2007	6
62/6.	The situation in Afghanistan	19	45th	5 November 2007	6
62/7.	Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies	12	46th	8 November 2007	13
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